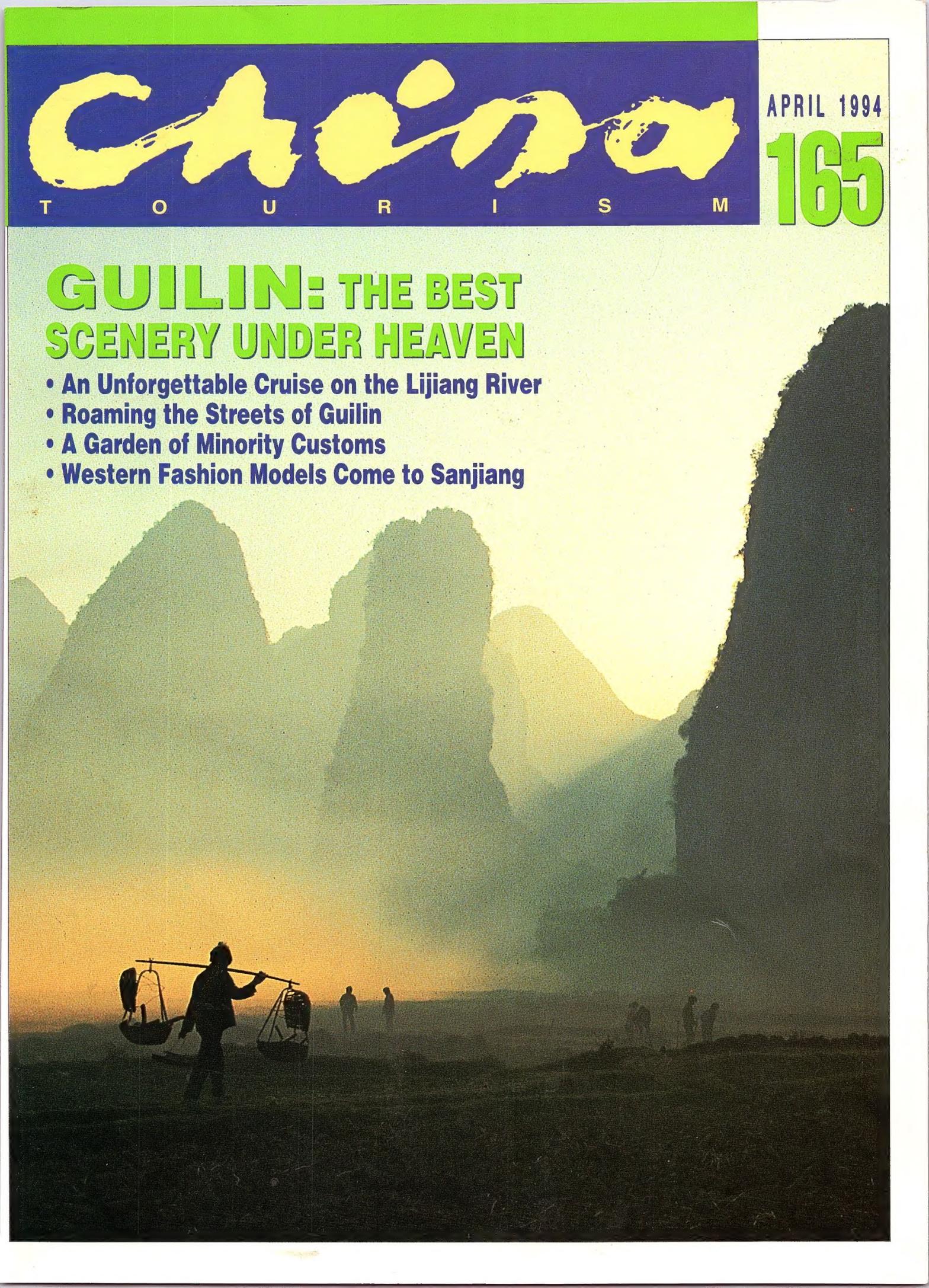


GUILIN: THE BEST SCENERY UNDER HEAVEN

- An Unforgettable Cruise on the Lijiang River
- Roaming the Streets of Guilin
- A Garden of Minority Customs
- Western Fashion Models Come to Sanjiang



Leading Television, Radio,

Newspaper and Magazine from Hong Kong and Taiwan

will be present. The result of their presence will provide latest information

on advertising and promotion, helping you open up the market of China,

Hong Kong and Taiwan. It is one

extraordinary meeting forum

specially designed for advertisers,

advertising & PR

professionals, and marketing &

sales people. And it is surely

a grand event not to be

missed. The first 2 days will be for

trade only; with your name card,

you are entitled to a copy of the Expo

Directory and latest advertising

catalogue for Hong Kong.

The last 2 days will be open to the public; you will be impressed by

the entertainment arranged throughout the Expo and will

have access to programmes of various media.



HONG KONG CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE 7/F

March 24-27, 1994

24/3 12:15-19:00 25/3 10:00-19:00 For Advertisers & Business People

26-27/3 10:00-19:00 For Public

ORGANIZER

銷售能(市場推廣)有限公司

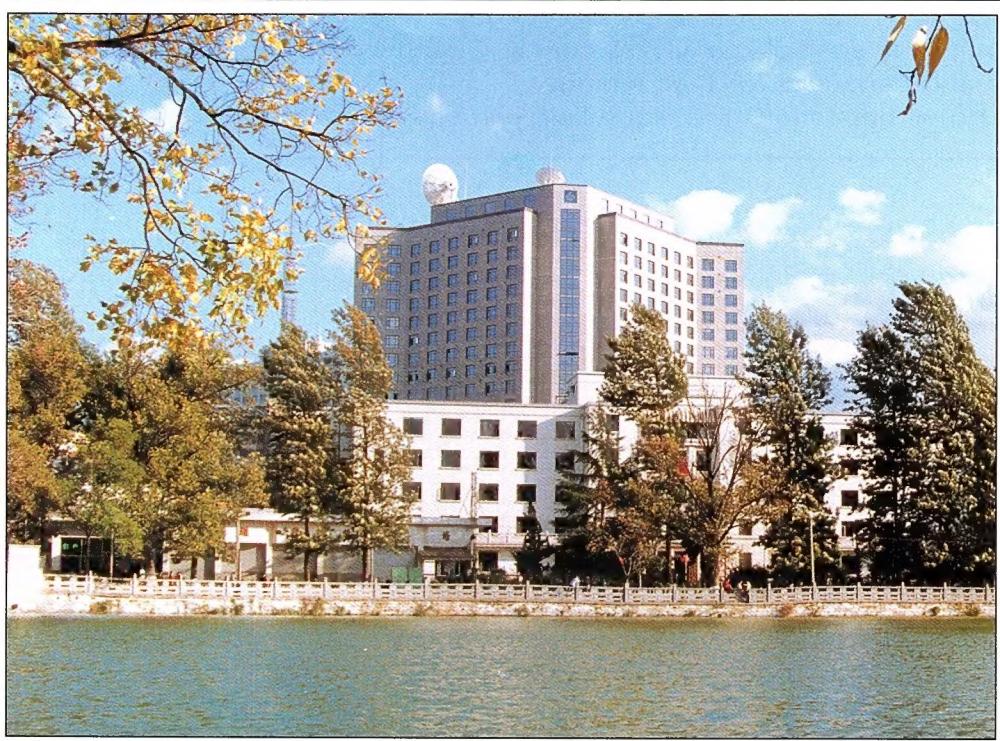
SALESLINK

(Marketing Services) Ltd.

Tel: 523 7375



GREEN LAKE HOTEL



Green Lake hotel, located at the most scenic Green Lake in Kunming.

The 16-storied deluxe new Green Lake Hotel, featuring 306 deluxe rooms and suites, IDD direct dial, mini-bars and hairdryers in all the rooms. Business Centre and an array of dining facilities to include speciality Chinese and continental cuisine, plus banquet facilities for 250, not to include 6 private rooms in different configurations. Traditional Chinese music band in Chinese Restaurant, piano bar, discotheque facilities, shopping arcade will provide you with full service.

Come stay with us.

General Manager: Gao Shizhong
Add: 6 South Cuihu Road, Kunming, China.
Tel: 5155788, 5158888
Fax: (871) 5157867, (871) 5153286
Telex: 3164073 GLHTL CN
Cable: 5046
Postcode: 650031





STAYING IN DONG FANG A SUCCESS IN BUSINESS

The businessmen, tourists and visitors always hunt for a comfortable and convenient hotel, where they can have an access to the native custom and cultural essence of alien land, where the multifarious services are rendered in the most efficient way. Those who visit Guangzhou want to taste the local gourmet food under the spell of the saying "eat in Guangzhou". Perhaps they will seek after what is superb, splendid and beneficial for their dining.

Dong Fang Hotel, opposite China Trade Fair, can satisfy you in all these respects. Why not try it!

Classical Garden National Style



Jade Palace Restaurant



FOR RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT

DONG FANG HOTEL, GUANGZHOU

Add: 120 Liu Hua Road, Guangzhou, China

Tel: (20) 6662946

Fax: (20) 6662775

Telex: 44439 GZDFH CN

Post code: 510016

HONG KONG OFFICE

Add: 18/F, CNT House, 118-122 Johnston Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Tel: (852) 5755866

Fax: (852) 5910335

BEIJING OFFICE

Add: Room 6083, Beijing Hotel 33 East Chang An Avenue, Beijing, China.

Tel: (1) 5137766-6083

Fax: (1) 5137766-6083

Post code: 100004

SHANGHAI OFFICE

Add: Room 8012, Galaxy Hotel, 888 Zhong Shan Xi Road, Shanghai, China.

Tel: (21) 2755888-8012

Fax: (21) 2750039-8012, (21) 2755888-8012

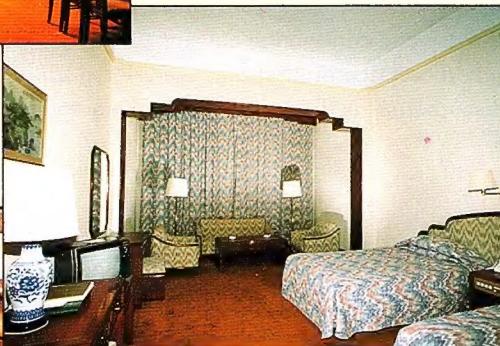
Post code: 200051

Overseas offices of China Travel Service (HK) Ltd.

Major travel agents in Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan

and other countries

Utell International



Deluxe Double Room



Multi-function International Convention Centre

一卡走遍 華夏大地

WITH ONE CARD YOU CAN TRAVEL ANYWHERE IN CHINA



一張 VIP 卡在手，19間酒店手拉手，
為尊敬的客人們，提供貴賓級享受！

凡是持有「中國名酒店 VIP 俱樂部」統一的 CFHC 卡或各會員單位自發 VIP 卡的人士，將可以在中國、香港20個地區的19家名酒店內，榮譽地獲得貴賓級的禮遇、享受和優惠。歡迎垂詢、光臨。

中國名酒店 VIP 俱樂部常設機構：
廣州東方賓館 傳真：(20) 6662775 電話：(20) 6669900-11



With a VIP card in your hand, 19 hotels all over China will treat you as an honoured guest and give you VIP treatment.

Holders of the unified CFHC card of the CHINA FAMOUS HOTEL VIP CLUB or the VIP card issued by any of the above-mentioned members will accord the bearer a VIP-grade courteous reception and preferential treatment in 19 famous hotels in 20 cities. You will find each hotel convenient and comfortable offering high-quality accommodations and service.

We always welcome inquiries and your patronage of our 19 member hotels.

The head office of CHINA FAMOUS HOTEL VIP CLUB:
Guangzhou Dong Fang Hotel Fax: (20) 6662775 TEL: (20) 6669900-11





Oriental Cultural Treasures and Chinese Art

Congratulations to the Beijing Arts and Crafts Group on their Five-Year Anniversary of Engaging in Export Trade.

Beijing Arts and Crafts Group (formerly Beijing Arts and Crafts Corporation) is a comprehensive import and export holdings company. Our major business activity is dealing in arts and crafts items, however we also engage in scientific research, production management, education, publishing, and the processing of imported materials according to given designs. The group owns about 60 industrial and commercial enterprises, 21 joint-ventures and 1 overseas trading branch.

More than 50 kinds of our products, including special handicrafts, carpets and drawworks, have won both national and international prizes. The group has set up good business relationships with foreign countries, with over 10,000 kinds of arts and crafts exported to more than 130 countries and regions in the world.

Let Beijing Arts and Crafts Group make your world more beautiful.

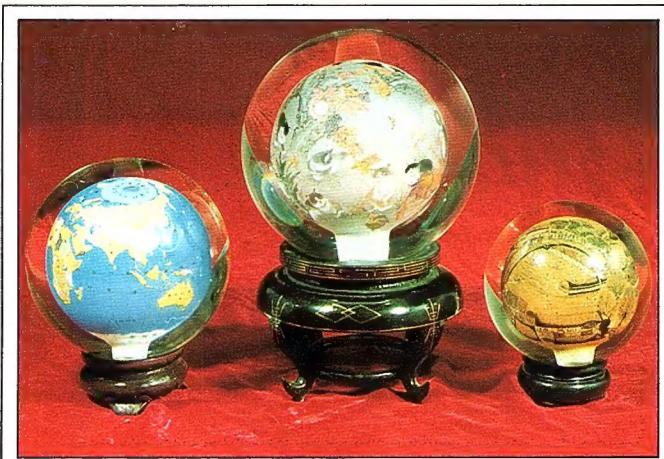
OUR BUSINESS SCOPE INCLUDES:

Drawworks, Woolen Carpets, Jewelry, Special Arts and Crafts, Metalcrafts, Scientific and Educational Instruments, Real Estate, Commercial trading, Environmental Art, Travel Services, Advertising Publications, Cultural Education.



北京工美集團 BEIJING ARTS AND CRAFTS GROUP

General Manager: Wang Zhen
Add: 14 Beichizi Avenue, Dongcheng District, Beijing, China
Tel: 5122314, 4279673
Postcode: 100006
Fax: (1) 5135835
Contact: Li You, Zhang Hong Wei



—EDITORIAL—

Guilin

— The Best Scenery Under Heaven

There are some places in the world that one can visit again and again and never tire of, and one of these surely must be the area around Guilin in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. The phrase most often used in Chinese to describe Guilin — “the best scenery under Heaven” — is an authentic but somewhat clichéd expression that attempts to convey the beauty of this city and its environs. It is not until one goes there, however, that the truth of these words can be fully appreciated.

The city is set in a valley surrounded by green karst hills of all shapes and sizes, which cast their reflections in the tranquil waters of the Lijiang River. It truly is hard to imagine a more perfect natural setting. The climate of the region — warm and fairly wet — only adds to the atmosphere, as the scenery looks especially magical when it is enveloped in mist, fog and clouds.

There are many ways one can explore this fairytale-like landscape: from a bus, a car, on bicycle, by boat or even on foot. One of the most popular activities for visitors to Guilin is to take a cruise down the Lijiang River, as some of the most spectacular scenery can be seen along the 83-kilometre stretch of river from Guilin to Yangshuo. One can also visit the many small towns and ancient villages along the way, stopping for a night here or a day there in order to get a real feeling for the region. And in the city of Guilin itself there is also much to see and do: visiting parks, caves, a garden of minority customs, or just roaming the streets at one’s leisure. In this issue we do all these things, and bring you the most up-to-date information on how to get around this rapidly changing municipality.

Apart from Guilin, we also take you on an overland journey to Tibet as seen through the eyes of an artist, introduce an interesting temple fair in the Tianjin area and attend a unique festival of the Dai minority. These and the other articles in this issue should give you plenty of ideas for your next holiday destination!

CONTENTS

No. 165 April 1994

GUILIN SPECIAL

A Guide to Places of Interest in Guilin 34

Photos by Peng Zhen Ge / Article by Luo Shaogang

Scenic Sights in the Greater Guilin Tourist Area 36

Text by Zheng Xiaoming

THE REALM OF RELIGION

The Rare Buddhist Art of Dule Temple 64

Text by Li Zhanlun

Building Tangerine Towers to Imperial Concubine Plum 82

Photos by Xie Jianbo / Article by Jun Feng

ANCIENT TOWNS & CIVILIZATIONS

Nianbadu — A 900-Year-Old Town Bordering Three Provinces 70

Photos & Article by Ren Jing

FOR THE COLLECTOR

Exquisite Miniature Works of Art — Mini-Carver Zhou Changxing and His Daughter 76

Text by Shi Bao Xiu

LOCAL CULTURE & CUSTOMS

The Flower Street Festival of the Dai 79

Photos & Text by Li Ping

FOLK ARTS & CRAFTS

The Beauty of Tibetan Carpets 86

Photos & Text by Lu Hongqi

TRAVEL NOTES 88

EXECUTIVE JOTTINGS

Major Hotels in Guangxi, Tianjin and Yunnan 94

BUSINESS TIPS 97

NEWS 98

NEXT ISSUE 99

Front Cover: Residents of Qifeng (Strangely-Shaped Peaks) Village on their way to work (by Zhang Yan)

GUILIN — THE BEST SCENERY UNDER HEAVEN

An Unforgettable Cruise on the Lijiang River

8

Photos by An Ge / Article by An Luo

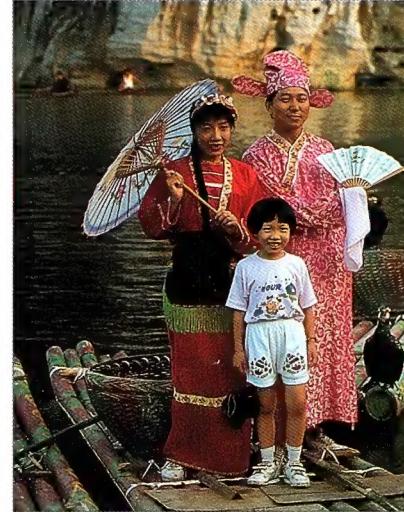
The 83-kilometre stretch of the Lijiang River between Guilin and Yangshuo boasts some of the most amazing scenery the world has to offer. Taking a cruise down the Lijiang is both a romantic and relaxing way to enjoy this stunning scenery.



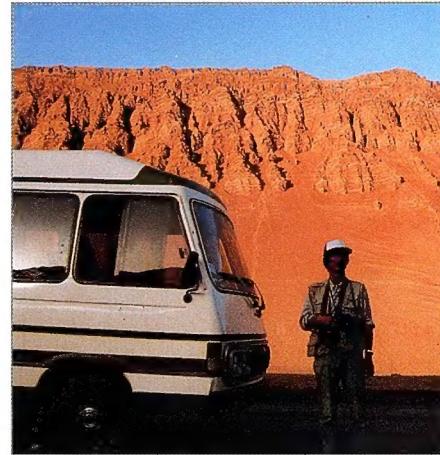
Roaming the Streets of Guilin 26

Photos by Peng Zhen Ge / Article by Luo Shaogang & Jun Feng

The best way to tour Guilin is to follow the example of the local inhabitants: Simply jump on a bicycle and wander the streets at your leisure. Whenever you pass an interesting sight or a wonderful hill to climb, pull over and explore to your heart's content. Guilin is a city that should be taken at a slow and unhurried pace, because there is a great deal more to it than first meets the eye.



VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY



An Artist's Journey to Tibet

46

Photos & Article by Li Zhongxiang

This travelogue tells the tale of eight artists from Yunnan who made a 14,000-kilometre journey overland to Tibet. They started out in Kunming, went north to Golmud, across the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau and all the way to the Himalayas deep in Tibet. Besides their many photos, included here are original sketches and woodblock prints of the sights they saw along the way.

顧問：（按姓氏筆劃為序）

王德海 安子介 伍沾德 馬 臨 馬志民 楊孝華 霍震寰 藍真

Consultants: T.K. Ann, Ian Fok, Chun Wan, Lam Chun, Ma Chi Man,

Ma Lin, Wong Tak Hoi, James T. Wu, Howard Young

社長：陳復禮 Director: Tchan Fou-li

副社長、總編輯：王 苗 Vice Director & Editor-in-Chief: Wang Miao

副總經理：張國榮 廖芯梅 李澤民

Vice General Managers: Zhang Guorong, Liu Pit Mui, Chapman Lee

助理總編輯：黎宗科 涂乃賢 陳一年

Assistant Editors-in-Chief: Lai Chung For, Tu Nai Hsien, Chan Yat Nin

中文編輯部主任：涂乃賢 Director of Chinese Dept.: Tu Nai Hsien

外文編輯部主任：鄭文棟

Director of Foreign Languages Editorial Dept.: Kuang Wen Dong

編輯 Editor: Roberta Raine

採訪編輯部主任：陳一年 Director of Reporting Dept.: Chan Yat Nin

資深記者：彭振戈 石寶琇 Senior Reporters: Peng Zhen Ge, Shi Bao Xiu

圖片庫主任：李澤民 Director of Photo Library: Chapman Lee

美術編輯部主任：梁嘉玲 Director of Art Dept.: Leung Ka Ling

廣告部經理：何婉致 Advertising Manager: Kena Ho

會計部主任：黃仲燕 Director of Account Dept.: Kathy Wong

編輯部 Editorial Dept: 電話 Tel: 541 9980

營業部、廣告部、訂閱推廣發行部

Promotion Dept., Managing Dept., Advertising Dept.: 電話 Tel: 541 1331

中國旅遊圖片庫 China Tourism Photo Library: 電話 Tel: 541 1331

香港中國旅遊公司 Hong Kong China Tourism Company: 電話 Tel: 541 1331

出版者：香港中國旅遊出版社 Publisher: HK CHINA TOURISM PRESS

香港皇后大道中138號威寧大廈17樓

17/F., V. Heun Building, 138 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong

電報掛號 Cable: HKCATMPS 電話 Tel: 541 1331

圖文傳真 Fax: 854 1721

承印者 Printer: 中華商務彩色印刷有限公司 C & C Offset Printing Co. Ltd.

香港新界大埔汀麗路36號 C & C Building, 36 Ting Lai Road, Tai Po, N.T., Hong Kong

電話 Tel: 666 4988

AGENCIES:

Australia: Gordon and Gotch Ltd., 25-37 Huntingdale Road, Burwood, Victoria 3125

Belgium: Sun Wah Supermarket

Brazil: Comercio Importadora Konmin Ltda.

Canada: Sun Wa Bookstore, Toronto

Van China Trade Centre Ltd., Vancouver

China: China National Publications

Import & Export Corp., Beijing

England: Guanghua Company Ltd., London

France: Europasie S.A.R.L., Paris

Holland: Ming Ya, Amsterdam

Hong Kong: Foreign Press Distributors Ltd.

Japan: Koyosha Co., Ltd., Tokyo

Macau: Starlight Bookstore Ltd.

The World Book Company

Plaza Cultural Macau Ltd.

Malaysia: Pustaka Lively, Tawau, Sabah

Singapore: International Book(s) Pte. Ltd.

Thailand: Chew Hong Service Ltd., Bangkok

The Philippines: Good Quality Merchandising, Manila

U.S.A.: China Periodical Distribution, Los Angeles

Oriental Culture Enterprise Co., New York

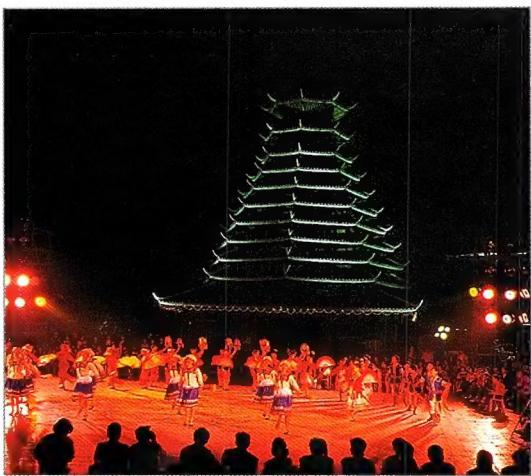
China Daily Distribution Corp., New York

Copyright reserved

Printed in Hong Kong

News-stand price: HK\$38

ERRATUM

In issue No. 163 of *China Tourism* the English name of 「中國旅遊圖片庫」should have been "China Tourism Photo Library".

A Garden of Minority Customs

33

Text by Zheng Xiaoming

One of Guilin's newest tourist attractions is a garden showcasing the region's largest minority groups. Here one can learn about traditional arts such as batik-making and wine-brewing, and see the colourful life styles of these ethnic groups.



Western Fashion Models Come to Sanjiang

40

Photos & Text by Jin Kelin

The staff of a French magazine recently chose the small town of Sanjiang in northern Guangxi as the setting for a photo shoot. Their models posed against the beautiful architecture of the Dong minority and tried on some of their traditional outfits, creating an interesting combination of East meets West.

TRACING THE PAST



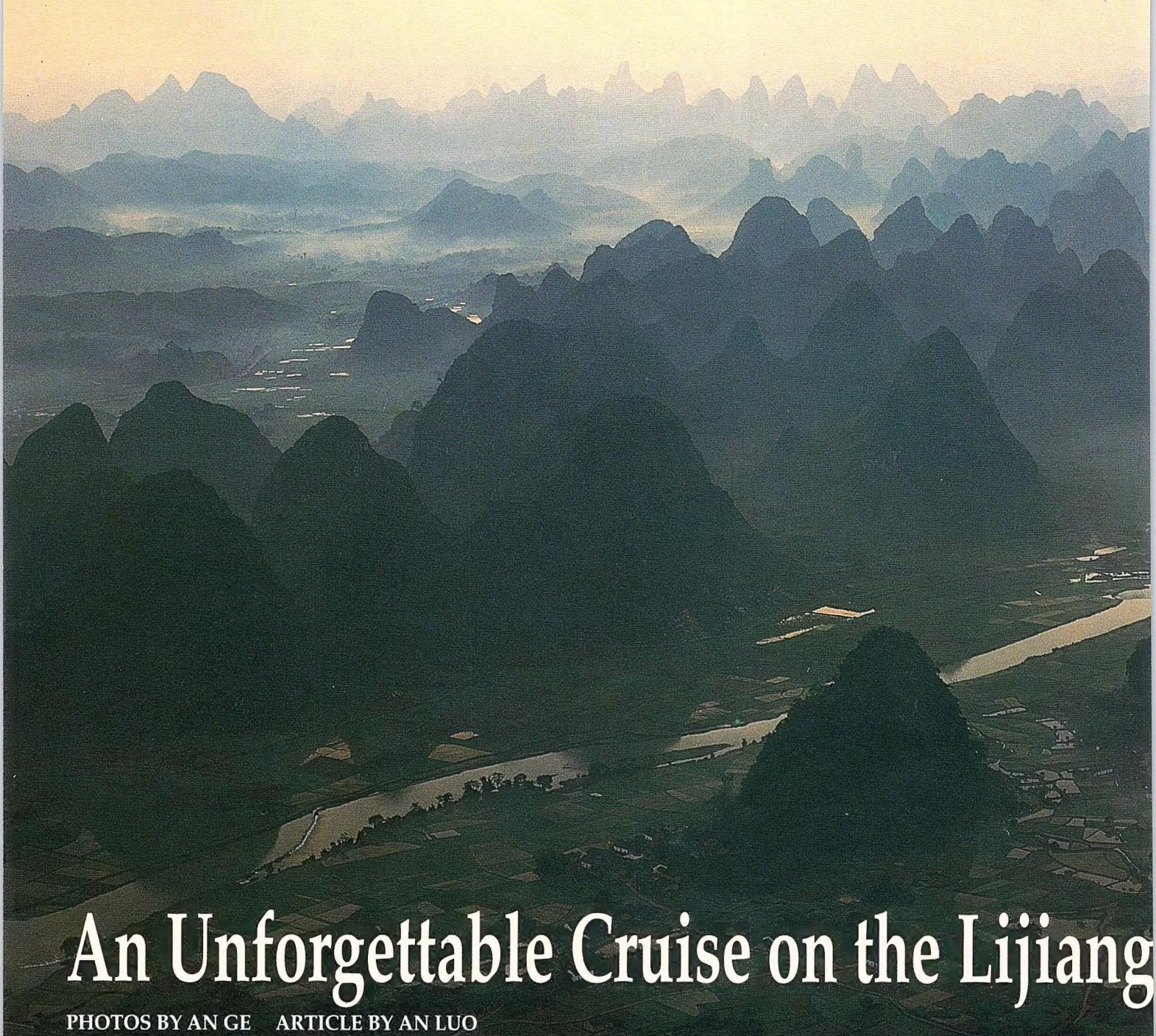
Tianjin's Mazu Temple Fair: Past and Present

58

Article by Li Lulu & Bao Xiu

During the Qing Dynasty the Mazu Temple in Tianjin was the site of an incredibly elaborate temple fair, with local folk artists putting on all kinds of spectacular performances. Thanks to detailed paintings done at that time, modern-day artists are now able to recreate scenes from the fair of long ago.

The landscape between the towns of Caoping and Xingping is among the most beautiful to be found along the Lijiang River (by Wang Wusheng).



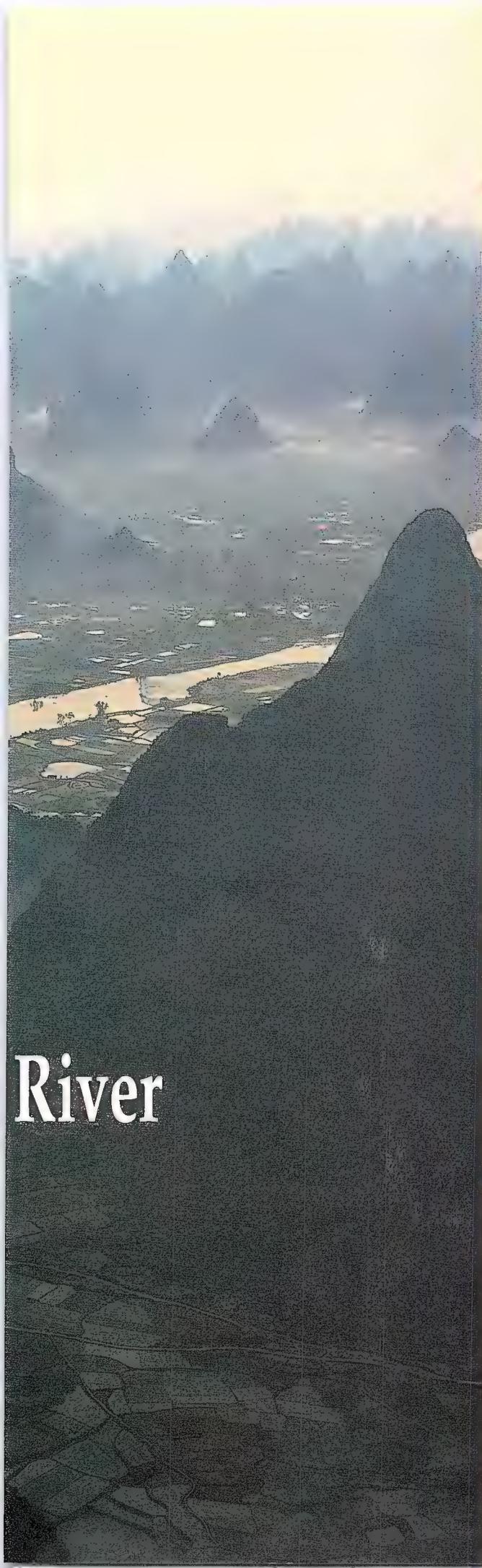
An Unforgettable Cruise on the Lijiang

PHOTOS BY AN GE ARTICLE BY AN LUO

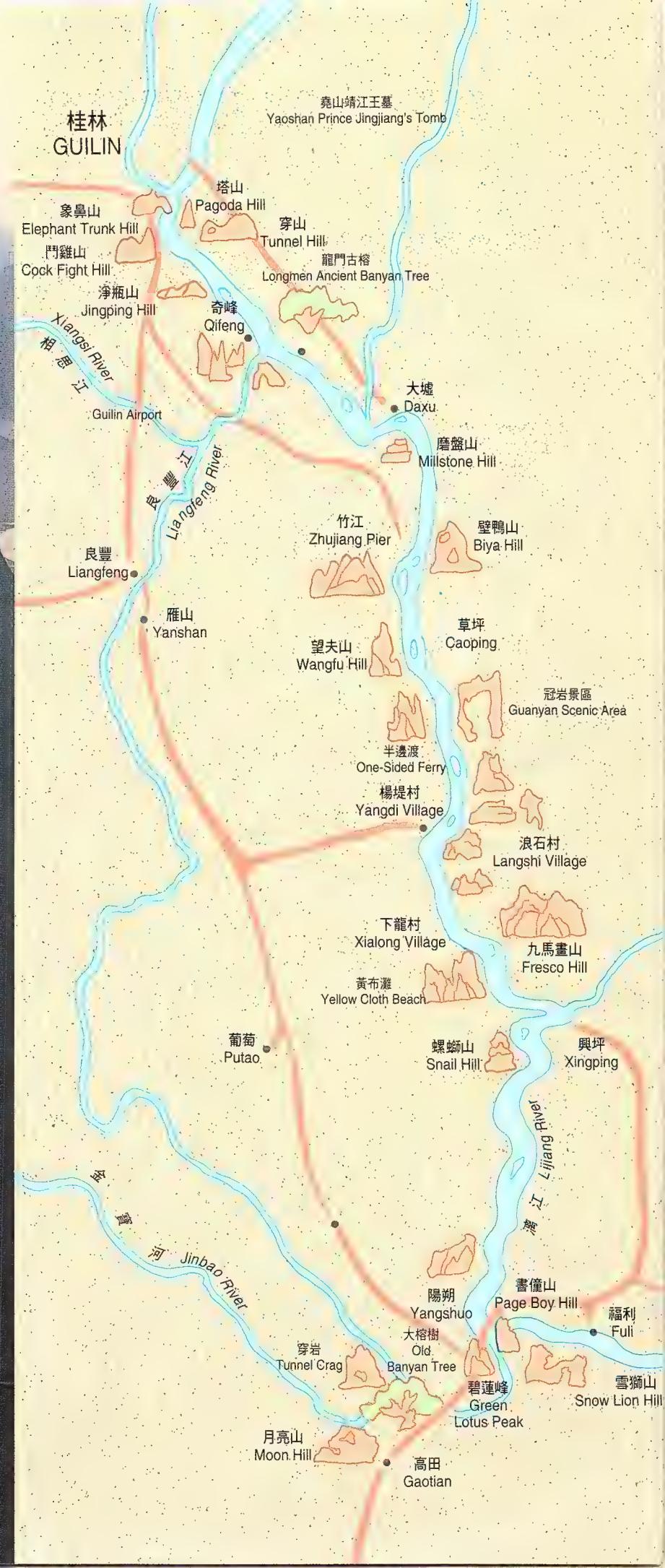
In Chinese, the traditional word used to describe landscape literally means "mountains and water", and landscape artists are known as "painters of mountains and water". Indeed, mountains, no matter how lofty, are not considered complete unless complemented by lakes, rivers or the sea. For Chinese poets and landscape artists, the perfect scenery has three qualities: hills that rise up abruptly from the ground, rivers and streams that meander around the hills, and a gently undulating terrain that embodies the gracefulness of nature and looks beautiful in any weather.

The city of Guilin in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region is the epitome of this kind of scenery. In fact, for thousands of years the Chinese have had the saying "The best scenery under heaven is found in Guilin." Many people who visit Guilin believe that the magnificent karst landscape can be seen only in the city confines, but in fact it stretches for 83 kilometres along the Lijiang River to the town of Yangshuo. The three most beautiful spots along the way are Qifeng Town in suburban Guilin, the over 20-kilometre stretch of river between the towns of Caoping and Xingping, and the ancient town of Yangshuo and its surroundings.

Last summer, I took a seven-day cruise along the Lijiang together with Mr. Jin, a photographer with the Guilin City Tourism Administration. Our itinerary was to first tour the strangely-shaped hills in a newly developed area at Qifeng, visit a local market in the town of Daxu, then rent a boat for a cruise down the Lijiang river — *de rigueur* for any trip to Guilin. Lastly, we planned to go ashore at Yangshuo and take a bicycle tour of the surrounding area, said to be the "best of the best" of Guilin scenery.



River



Qifeng — A Town of Strange Hills

We started our trip at the seventh pier on Riverside Road in Guilin, where we boarded a boat that would take us on a cruise downstream along the Lijiang River. After passing by Fu Bo (Taming the Waves) Hill and Seven-Star Crag, the boat entered a section of rapid currents. Soon we were right in front of Elephant Trunk Hill. Viewed from the river, one can easily see the trunk, eyes, back and legs of the "elephant", which looks just like a real elephant drinking water from the river.

*The local people in Qifeng still lead a simple life in tune to the rhythm of nature
(by Zhang Yan).*







The city district of Guilin receded into the distance as we passed hills on both sides, which then gave way to large tracts of rice paddies. Smoke curled up from the chimneys of houses in far-off villages. Within an hour's time, we came to a site where numerous karst hills rose straight up from the ground. Mr. Jin told us this was only one of the nearly 100 scenic sites along the river. In recent years, photographers who went ashore in search of even better scenery discovered that there is much more to the place than just the steep hills.

We went ashore and walked along a fairly flat path that wound round a hill and suddenly came upon a village, behind which were vast stretches of rice paddies. This village is called Qifeng (literally Strange Hills), and is home to over 100 households. Mr. Jin took me up to a hilltop behind the village and we looked down at the scene below. Under the rays of sun that shone through the thin fog, Qifeng looked like something out of a fairy tale.

We returned to the river bank at noon, and after much waiting rented another boat and sailed towards the town of Daxu. A little over ten kilometres from Guilin by river, Daxu is a land and water transportation hub. One of the four most well-known towns in Guangxi during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), it now remains a major market town in the vicinity. After learning that the next day was a market day, we decided to spend the night there.

Daxu's oldest street was built along the river and is still paved with stone slabs. Here one can see ancient shopfronts and tall gate towers, as well as a bridge called Wanshou (Longevity) Bridge that dates back to the Ming Dynasty. To protect this ancient bridge, a simple plank bridge has been built to accommodate pedestrians. With the area's now well-developed highway network, river transportation on the Lijiang has decreased dramatically. These days the only river traffic one sees are leisure crafts and fishing boats. As a result, the town of Daxu is a quiet and tranquil place — except, that is, on market days.

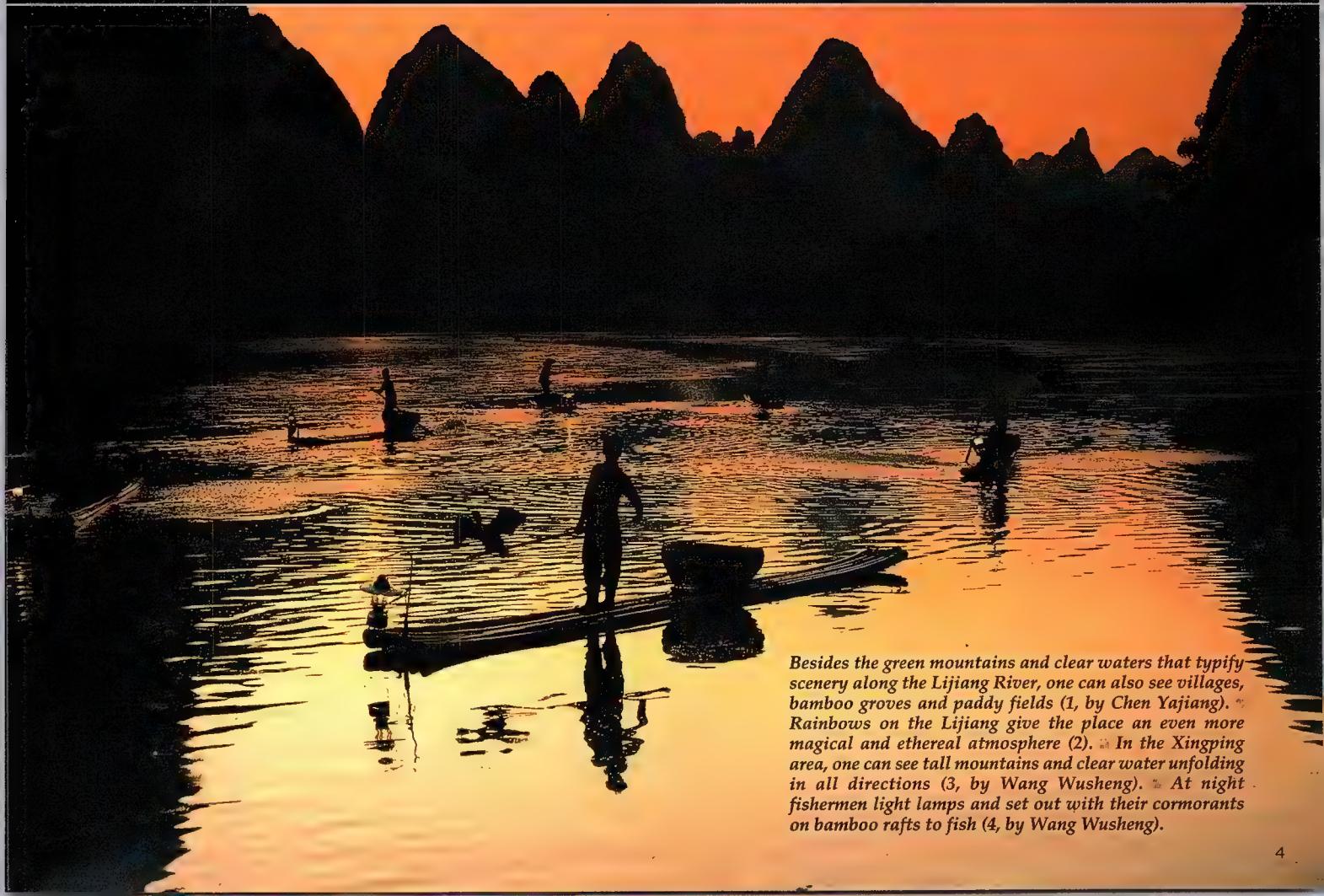
Before the sun had fully risen the next morning the dock was already bustling with activity. People descended from boats carrying wax gourds, tomatoes, green vegetables, chickens and ducks, pigs and sheep. They walked along the stone stairs to the newly built market at the back of the town and laid out their produce. By the time daylight had arrived, the sprawling market was already packed with customers.

We wandered around the market, then after having lunch bought some bananas and sat on the stairs of a house facing the river, eating our bananas while waiting for the boat. Just then, the owner of the house returned and, seeing our cameras and realizing that we were visitors, warmly invited us into his house. It turned out he was a painter who used to teach fine arts in Guilin. During that time a friend showed him this gray brick building, originally owned by a merchant during the

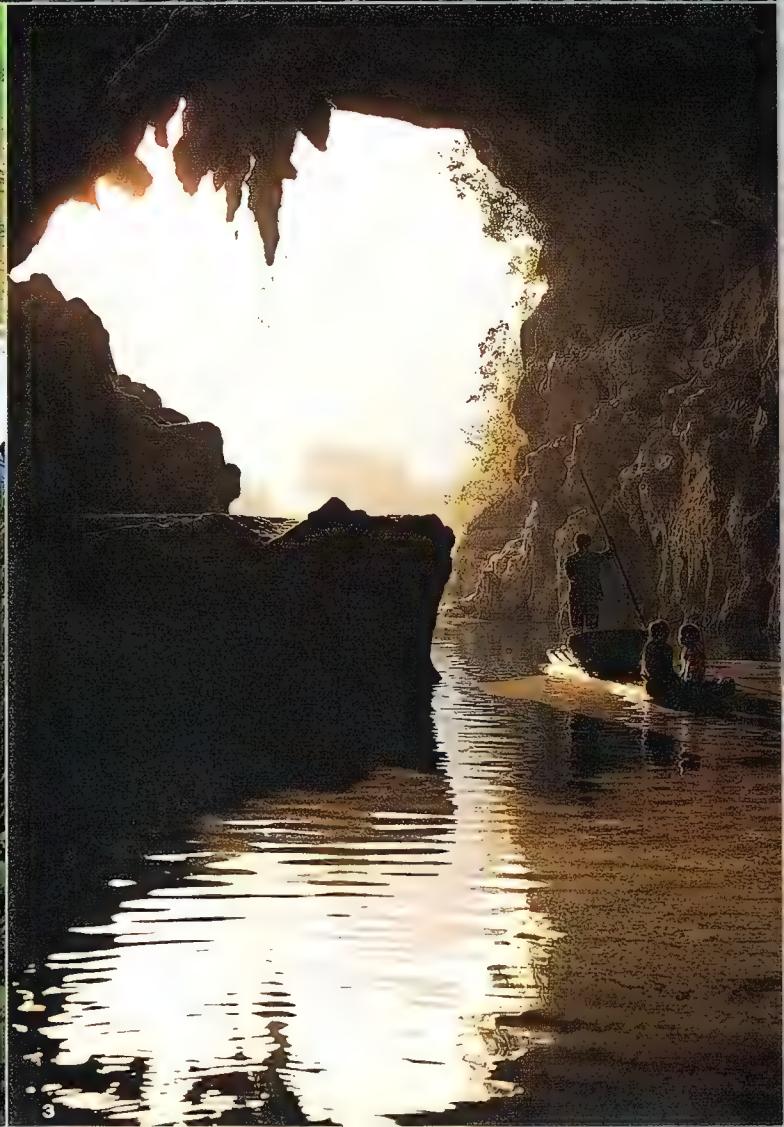


Summer is the peak season for tourism in Guilin. Every day hundreds of pleasure boats laden with thousands of Chinese and foreign visitors ply the Lijiang River (1). ■ In order to keep Daxu's Ming-dynasty Wanshou Bridge intact, an alternate bridge for pedestrians and bicyclists has been built (2). ■ The town of Qifeng is located in a mountainous area in the suburbs of Guilin (3, by Jin Kelin). ■ Early in the morning, villagers board a ferry to take them to the market in Daxu (4).





Besides the green mountains and clear waters that typify scenery along the Lijiang River, one can also see villages, bamboo groves and paddy fields (1, by Chen Yafiang). Rainbows on the Lijiang give the place an even more magical and ethereal atmosphere (2). In the Xingping area, one can see tall mountains and clear water unfolding in all directions (3, by Wang Wusheng). At night fishermen light lamps and set out with their cormorants on bamboo rafts to fish (4, by Wang Wusheng).



Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), which he eventually bought. We sat on the wooden balcony that had recently been completed, enjoying the scenery, sipping tea, discussing painting.... Our host said he believed that the Lijiang River was at its most beautiful in the spring, when the land is a tender green colour and the hills seem to be suspended between the sky and water, covered in a transparent veil of mist and fog.

Listening to the Night Rain in a Mountain Villa

A little after 2:00 in the afternoon, the dock became busy again with people leaving the market and returning home. We said good-bye to the painter and his wife and continued our journey downstream to Caoping. On the boat, villagers were discussing the day's business. The farmer next to me told me that he had gone to the market with 80 kilogrammes of tomatoes, which earned him over 50 yuan. He also said that the next day there would be a market in Caoping where the prices would be even better.

The graceful hills along the banks slowly receded. Using his pole, the boatman deftly pushed the boat left and right to avoid the shoals. Seeing we were taking pictures of him at work, he began to wield his pole with even greater dexterity. Smiling broadly, he sang a work song in time with his movements. His passengers responded to this unexpected performance with warm applause. Opposite Biya Hill is a huge leisure boat pier. Mr. Jin told us that this is Zhujiang Pier, reserved specially for tours cruising the Lijiang River. Every morning, between several dozen and a hundred boats leave here for Yangshuo.

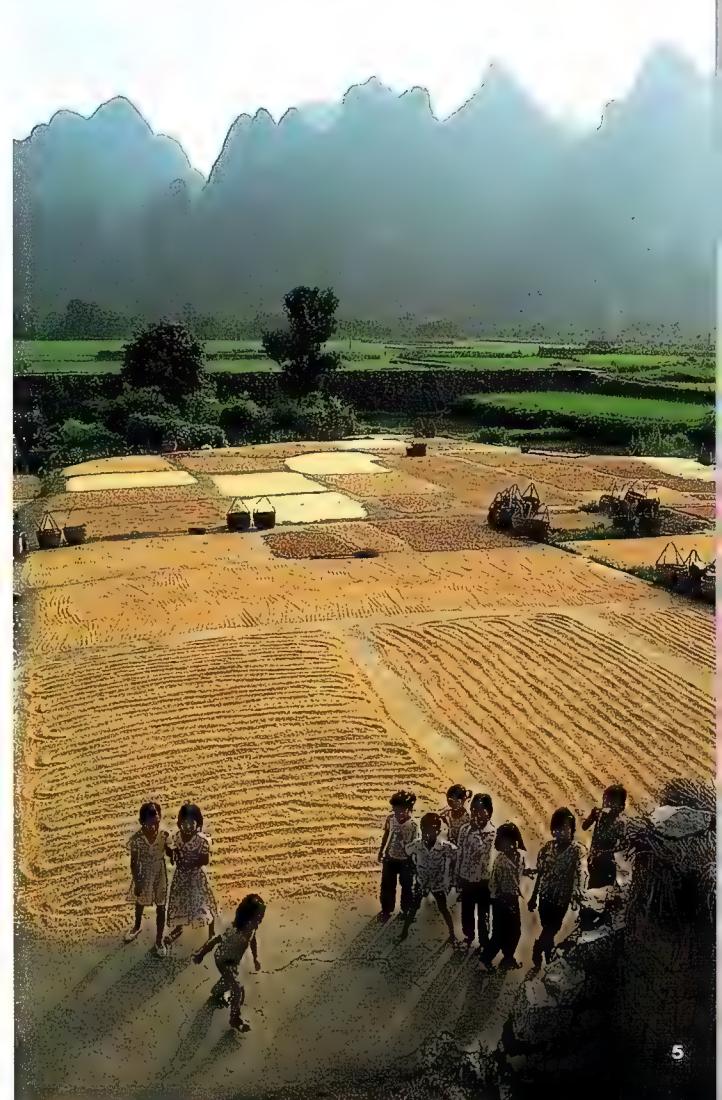
Before long the boat arrived at Caoping, about 15 kilometres from Daxu. In the town, on a street built along the river, were two grocery stores and a smithy, in addition to several newly-opened restaurants and inns. The freshly painted inns were made to resemble ordinary homes, and seemed very attractive to potential customers. We saw a group of foreign tourists carry their luggage into a restaurant and order some rice noodles, one of the local delicacies of Guilin.

We decided to take a walk and set out on a path, passing first through a forest and then rice paddies. We found a villa-style hotel set behind a hill called the Cloud and Mist Mountain Villa, which consisted of four wood and brick buildings. Sitting by the window in the restaurant of the hotel, we had a hearty meal. The chairs were so new that they gave off the fragrance of freshly-cut timber. Outside the French windows, green and yellow rice paddies and blue hills stretched off into the distance.

The rain that began the night before stopped at dawn, turning the fields and hills wet and dark green. After travelling on foot along a canal for about one kilometre, we came to a karst cave called Guanyan (Crest Crag). From this ten-metre-tall cave, an underground stream gently flows into the Lijiang River. We entered the cave on a bamboo raft and found that it was over 20 metres at its widest point and only a metre at the narrowest. Sometimes we had to bend over double in order for the raft to pass through. Using a light that was attached to the raft, we were able to see all sorts of strangely-shaped stalactites hanging down from the ceiling.

After floating downstream for several hundred metres, we were told that the underground river was no longer safe for rafting, therefore we had to get off the raft and clamber forward among the stalactites. Soon we were out of the cave and back in broad daylight. To my surprise, we were already half-way up the hill.

A stone path led us to a terrace, where we had a bird's-eye view of the Lijiang River as it flowed along, flanked by uniquely graceful hills. Another light rain began, shrouding the hills, river and rice paddies of Caoping below in mist. At the foot of the hill we ferried across the river, walked through a teak grove and arrived at Guanyan Village. A stream flowed past the village and at the entrance was a pool encircled with stones. The water was so clear



The Guanyan Scenic Area has a new hotel named the Yunwu (Cloud and Mist) Villa in Caoping (1). ■ This pond sits by a mountain stream near the entrance to Guanyan Village (2). ■ Tourists can enter Guanyan Cave only via a bamboo raft (3, by Wang Wusheng). ■ The serene old streets in the town of Daxu only come alive on market days (4). ■ The area used for drying grain in this village near Caoping also serves as a playground for children (5). ■ Inside a household guesthouse in Caoping (6).



that one could see right through to the bottom. Some village women were washing their clothes by the pool.

We went into the village along a smooth cobblestone road and looked at the tall, ancient houses, reminders of this town's more prosperous days. In the past, before railways and highways were developed, the Lijiang River was a major transportation route through Guangxi. Sailboats were rather slow back then and, when going upstream, they had to be towed by people walking along the banks. The slowness resulted in the accumulation of both passengers and cargo, boosting the development of villages and towns along the river. Times have changed since then, and the place has become much more quiet.

Though the river is teeming with Chinese and foreign tourists travelling up and down on dozens of boats every day, this little village is seldom visited and the villagers continue to lead their simple life, oblivious of the rest of the world. To prevent the river from being polluted, cooking on leisure boats will soon be banned. When that happens, many of the boats will have to dock in Caoping in order to let their passengers eat lunch. This means that the town of Caoping may soon be inundated with visitors, and the inhabitants' lives greatly altered.

Moonlight on the Lijiang River

The 20-kilometre section of the river between Caoping and the ancient town of Xingping is probably the most beautiful part of the Lijiang. We rented a boat in Caoping and prepared for our scenic ride. The boat sailed very quickly and the hills on either side rushed past.

The river curved to the right and then turned abruptly left. Here a cliff some 100 metres tall stands menacingly on the right bank. This place is popularly known as the Banbian (One-Sided) Ferry. As the cliff cuts off the path along the river, local villagers have to get a boat and sail round the cliff before they can continue their journey on the right bank of the river. After this, the river straightens and widens and the hills along the banks take on a multitude of different shapes. One of the hills straight ahead looked just like an apple that had been set into the hills.

Three kilometres later, we saw a village nestled deep in a bamboo grove. Called Yangdi, the village is 45 kilometres from Guilin and exactly halfway between Guilin and Yangshuo. The first part of the cruise now seemed a mere introduction compared to the magnificent scenery of this second half. I stood on the bow eagerly watching the shifting scenes, worried that I might miss the next, possibly more beautiful sight.

We soon arrived at Langshi Village, located at the entrance of Erlang Gorge. Although it was a clear day and no longer cloudy, inside the gorge it was rather dark and gruesome. All of a sudden, I saw part of a strange halo-shaped light in the hills. I cried to the boatman to stop, jumped ashore and tried to find a good spot from which to photograph it. Unfortunately, the light was already beginning to fade, but I quickly took photos and watched it until it disappeared, then made my way back to the boat.

When I returned, the woman in charge of the boat had supper all ready for us. As we ate we watched the sky turn dark and the lights





go on in the village houses. A bright moon had quietly appeared in the sky.

In order to see the sunrise next morning, we sailed out of Erlang Gorge in the moonlight. The river now widened again and was very calm. Under the bright light of the moon, the hills cast dark shadows on the water. The varied shapes of the hills' reflections in the water looked like a moving water-colour painting.

Waiting for the Sunrise

Our boat stopped at the foot of three hills and right in front of a village called Xialong. The boatman said that as the river turned east from here, it was an ideal spot to watch the sunrise. We settled down to sleep, and when I awoke early the next morning I could still see the lights of boats blinking in the bay. The clouds in the east were turning from orange-yellow to red. The water was very calm, and the reflection of the clouds on the river made them look even redder than they were in the sky.

Not wanting to break the tranquillity of this scene with the sound of the motor, the boatman let the boat drift along with the current. Now and then, a fisherman's bamboo raft sailed by, and the green hills continued to dance in the still water. At 10:00 that morning, convoys of tourist boats began to appear. Their engines roared and stirred up waves, destroying the beautiful shadows on the water. I put away my camera and went for a swim in the river. A rubber dinghy came towards me, and the foreign couple inside told me that they had rented the dinghy in Guilin and were going to row it all the way to Yangshuo.

We continued our river cruise in the afternoon and dropped anchor in Xingangzhou Village for a short visit. When we returned to the river, several dozen water buffalo were bathing in the water and grazing along the shores. The buffalo herder followed behind on a raft. The setting sun tinged the cliffs of the hills red, adding to the beauty of this rural scene.

Huangbu (Yellow Cloth) Beach, so named because of the colour of the pebbles on the river bed, is said to be one of the best places for seeing the reflection of the hills in the Lijiang River. Indeed, the beach here had been stamped flat by all the visitors and photographers who had come before us. That night, we anchored in the shallow water opposite the beach.

In the wee hours of the morning I was awoken by the sound of voices. I looked out and saw the lights of about ten rafts, arranged in a fan formation and moving towards our boat. Fishermen were standing on the rafts and look intently at the water, fishing nets in their hands. Now and then we heard a net being cast into the river. As the fishing formation drifted past, the light of their lamps illuminated our

Farmgirls take their water buffalo out for a stroll along the river banks (1, by Jin Kelin). □ Haloes can sometimes be seen at the entrance to Langshi Village after it rains (2). □ Children along the river learn how to use a bamboo raft at an early age (3, by Zhang Yan). □ Market-goers from Caoping on their way to Daxu (4). □ Eating dinner with a fishing family is a rare treat (5). □ Fishermen's cormorants add to the vitality of life on the Lijiang River (6, by Xie Jiemin).





boat. Leaning against the window, I could see right through the water to the river bed. I could not help thinking how easy it was to fish on the Lijiang River. You simply had to cast the net when you saw fish and your catch was ensured.

Discovering the Ancient Charm of Xingping

The next day, we departed Yellow Cloth Beach and soon came to the ancient town of Xingping. Standing on the bow, I looked about me and saw hills, fishing boats, sandy beaches, houses and bamboo groves — a timeless scene of harmony and grace.

The town of Xingping is 1,700 years old and still retains a strong air of history. A traditional medicine store called Yonghetang (Eternal Harmony Hall) is now run by a doctor of traditional Chinese medicine, who told us that the store was established during the reign of Emperor Tongzhi (1862-1874) of the Qing Dynasty. The current owner was the seventh generation of proprietors.

There were other old-fashioned stores here including a flour store, a steelmaker's and a barber shop, the latter of which was enjoying a brisk business. While waiting in line for a hair-cut, some of the customers peacefully dozed off in bamboo chairs. The barber, however, took his time with each customer and would not be rushed, a reflection of the pace of life in this ancient town.

We went for a visit to an old temple called Tengjiao (Tumbling Dragon) Nunnery and then had a meal in a small restaurant nearby, which included Lijiang River fish and wine fermented with osmanthus flowers. Though we were sleepy, we continued with our cruise. Up to this point, I had not really cared much for the legends and stories the boatman had told us connected to Guilin's scenery, thinking they were too farfetched. Now looking at the scenery in a slightly drowsy mood, I had different feelings. When the boatman said the hill up ahead looked like a woman combing her hair, or that the next scene looked like a carp drinking water, I was instantly able to accept these descriptions and see just what he was talking about.

Later I dozed off, and when I awoke we were already at Shutong (Page Boy) Hill in Yangshuo and the boatman had launched into another story about the place. We went into town and stood on Yangshuo Bridge, where we watched the sun set behind Bilian (Green Lotus) Peak, as it cast its golden evening glow on the town.

Yangshuo's "Foreigners' Street"

We checked into the Yangshuo Hotel located along the famous "Foreigners' Street" — actually named West Street. The signboards of all the stores and restaurants here have foreign names. A café with a veranda was filled with foreign tourists drinking beer. Stalls lined the road and continued down to the river, with all kinds of tourist souvenirs on sale: hand-painted T-shirts, folk arts and crafts, ceramics, antiques, folding fans, ethnic costumes made of batik, Mao badges and the English edition of *Quotations of Chairman Mao*. Bicycle bells were a hot item because, we were told, most visitors enjoyed touring the city by bike.

By the tourist boat pier at the foot of Green Lotus Peak is a gate tower built in traditional Chinese architectural style. Characters carved into a stone stele standing in front of the entrance of the tower informed us that this was the 1,400th anniversary of the founding of the city.

At dusk, Mr. Jin took me to Susanna's Café for dinner. The façade of the shop was decorated with tree bark, palm leaves and colourful



It is said that Yangshuo's scenery is the "best of the best" in the Guilin area (1, by Jin Kelin). □ Fishermen set out for their night fishing on the Lijiang (2, by Zhang Yan). □ Visitors can look down upon the 1,400-year-old city of Yangshuo from the summit of Xilang Mountain (3). □ Yonghetang is an old shop that sells traditional Chinese medicine in the ancient town of Xingping (4). □ Inner tubes can be rented in Yangshuo to make swimming in the Lijiang even more fun (5). □ This coffee shop, named Susanna's Café and located on Yangshuo's "Foreigners' Street", tries to recreate a European atmosphere (6).



lights. A dozen tables were arranged outside along the street, all illuminated with oil lamps. The menu boasted a selection of over 200 different Western dishes. The owner told us that he got the recipes for all these dishes from his foreign patrons. He said that he had hired four foreigners who were on extended holidays in Yangshuo to help him with cooking, including a Frenchman, a Spaniard and an Italian. We ordered Italian spaghetti and yogurt, both of which were very good.

The owner's father, who was a nationally-known Guilin opera performer, demonstrated theatrical kung fu for the diners. He was so skilful at twirling his golden-coloured cudgel that the customers all cheered. In his sixties and living in retirement, the old man practises kung fu every morning halfway up Green Lotus Peak, and often teaches foreign visitors as well. He said he had already taught several hundred foreign students.

Karst hills are a common sight in the vicinity of Yangshuo. Standing on the top of Pantao (Peach) Hill in the southwest part of the town, I was amazed at the number of craggy peaks. It is said that this place has the most beautiful and magnificent karst terrain in the world. The rural scenery around Yangshuo reminds one of a landscape painting. Frequently one sees tourists camping out in the hills, the better to enjoy this wonderful atmosphere. By the end of my stay I was convinced that Yangshuo truly does have the best scenery in the region of Guilin.

The next morning, we drove south to a place called Gaotian, and within an hour came to the Jinbao River Bridge, another ideal spot to photograph the sunrise. A tributary of the Lijiang, the Jinbao River — though shrouded in mist — was already busy with fishermen casting their nets. Smoke curled up from the chimneys of small cottages, and beautiful hills dotted the rice paddies in the east.

Though all the places we visited are part of the Guilin area scenery, each spot has its own unique charm: Guilin is more cosmopolitan; the Lijiang is sleepy and peaceful, and Gaotian is typically rural.

Travelling ahead for another kilometre, a great banyan tree came into sight. This tree is known for its incredible size: 17 metres tall and seven metres in circumference. The foliage of the 1,300-year-old tree covers an area of over a thousand square metres. Crossing the river from the ancient ferry at Rongyin, we came to more bamboo groves, paths cutting through fields, graceful hills and rocks, streams and gullies, bridges and cottages — typical scenery of Guilin, to be sure, but equally beautiful each time you see it.

©

Translated by Huang Youyi

A 1,300-year-old banyan tree casts shade over an area of more than 1,000 square metres in the town of Gaotian (1). ■ A small dam at the entrance to Chuanshan Village near Yangshuo provides an ideal place for children to swim (2, by Jin Kelin). ■ These foreign adventurers rowed all the way from Guilin to Yangshuo in a rubber dinghy (3). ■ The scenery in Gaotian reminds one of a traditional Chinese landscape painting (4, by Guan Jianzhong). One of the best ways to appreciate the beauty of Guilin's landscape is to trek along the Lijiang River and at night, camp on its shores (5, by Jin Kelin).



3



4



5

ZHEJIANG ARTS & CRAFTS



ZHEJIANG

Zhejiang Arts & Crafts Import and Export Corporation
Address: 12, Zhongshan Road (North) Hangzhou, China
Postcode: 310003 Tel: 7068888
Cable: 0433 ZJART HANGZHOU
Telex: 35017, 351066 ZARTS CN
Fax: 7063838, 7068811, 7063030, 7065533

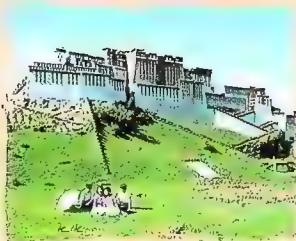
A GLIMPSE AT THE THOUSAND-YEAR-OLD CIVILIZATIONS OF CHINA

TRAVEL OVER THE MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAINS AND RIVERS THROUGHOUT
CHINA IN A SINGLE DAY

THE WORLD'S LARGEST MINIATURE SCENERY PARK

'SPLENDID CHINA' SHENZHEN, CHINA

華 中 繡 錦



China Travel Service (Hong Kong) Ltd.

General Agents for the business of "Splendid China"
in Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan as well as Overseas

HEAD OFFICE: 78-83 Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong. G.P.O. Box 6016 Fax: 8541383 Tel: 8533888 Cable: Travelbank Telex: 73344 HKCTS HX T/A Licence No. 350273

**China Travel Service
(Thailand) Co., Ltd.**

559 Yaowarat Road, Sampuntawong, Bangkok,
10100, Thailand
Tel: (66-2)2260041 2264712-11
Fax: (66-2)2264712-3 Tlx: 84470 CTSTHAI TH

**U.S. China Travel Service Inc.
(Main Office)**

2/F, 212 Sutter Street, San Francisco CA 94108, U.S.A.
Tel: (1-415)398-6627 (1-800)332-2831
Fax: (1-415)398-6689 Tlx: 278233 USCTS UR

**U.S. China Travel Service Inc.
(Los Angeles Office)**

119 S. Atlantic Blvd., Suite 303 U.S. CTS Building,
Monterey Park, CA 91754 U.S.A.
Tel: (1-818)457-8668 Fax: (1-818)457-8955

**U.S. China Travel Service Inc.
(Orlando Branch)**

7980 Highway 192 W. Room 1018,
Kissimmee Florida 34747 U.S.A.
Tel: (1-407)396-7701
Fax: (1-407)396-6685

Lee's Travel Service, Inc.

928-934 Meling Way, Los Angeles, CA 90012, U.S.A.
Tel: (1-213)626-1287 Fax: (1-213)626-8821

China Travel Service Inc.

801-803 Gandara St., (Corner Espeleta St.) Sta. Cruz,
Manila, Philippines
Tel: (63-2)483717 483479, 483480, 407475
Fax: (63-2)5300463

China Travel Service (U.K.) Ltd.

24, Cambridge Circus, London WC2H 8HD, England
Tel: (44-71)836-9911 Fax: (44-71)836-3121
Tlx: 263492 UKCTS G



Shenzhen Splendid China Development Co. Ltd.

China Travel Service (Aust) Pty. Ltd.

G/F., 757-759, George St., Sydney, N.S.W. 2000, Australia
Tel: (61-2)2112633 (61-2)2817415
Fax: (61-2)2813595 Tlx: 73301 CTSSYD AA

Singa China Travel Service Pte. Ltd.

1 Park Road, #03-49 to 52, People's Park Complex
Singapore 0105
Tel: (65)532-9988 Fax: (65)535-4912 538-6068

China Travel Service (Canada) Inc.

556 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. Canada V5Z 1E9
Tel: (1-604)872-8787 Fax: (1-604)873-2823 Tlx: 04-54219

**China Travel Service (Canada) Inc.
(Toronto Office)**

438 University Avenue, Suite 306, BOX 28 Toronto, Ont.,
Canada MSG 2K8
Tel: (1-416)979-8993 Fax: (1-416)979-8220

China Travel Service (France) S.A.R.L.

32, Rue Vignon, 75009 Paris, France
Tel: (33-1)44515566 Fax: (33-1)44515560

China Travel Service (Japan) Co., Ltd.

Nihombashi-Settsu Bldg. 2-2-4, Nihombashi, Chuo-ku,
Tokyo, Japan
Tel: (81-3)3273-5512 Fax: (81-3)3273-2667
Tlx: 242-3968 CTSJPN J

P.T. Cempaka Travelindo Service

Jl. Hayam Wuruk No.97, Jakarta-Barat, Indonesia
Tel: (62-21)6294452 (62-21)6007455 Fax: (62-21)6294836

**China Travel & Trading
(Deutschland) GmbH**

Dusseldorfer Strasse 14, 6000 Frankfurt/M.1, Germany
Tel: (49-69)250515 (49-69)250516 Fax: (49-69)23234

China Travel System (M) Sdn Bhd.

Ground Floor, No.112-114 Jalan Pudu,
55100 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: (60-3)201-8888 Fax: (60-3)201-3268

Top: Doing exercises and deep breathing atop Fu Bo Hill is a good way to keep fit.

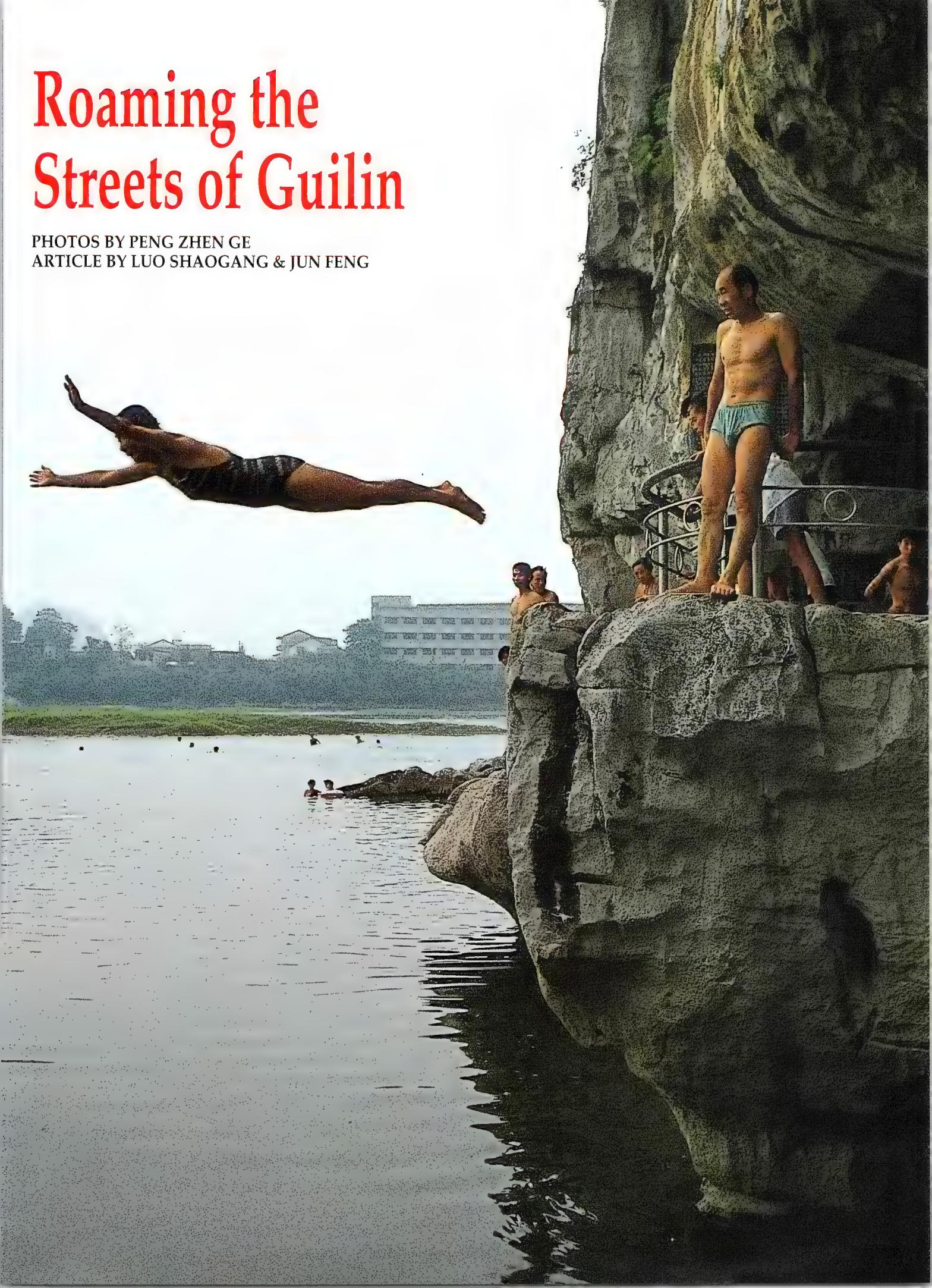
Bottom: Dressing up as Sister Liu and her husband and having a photo taken in front of Elephant Trunk Hill is one of the "musts" of any Guilin tour.

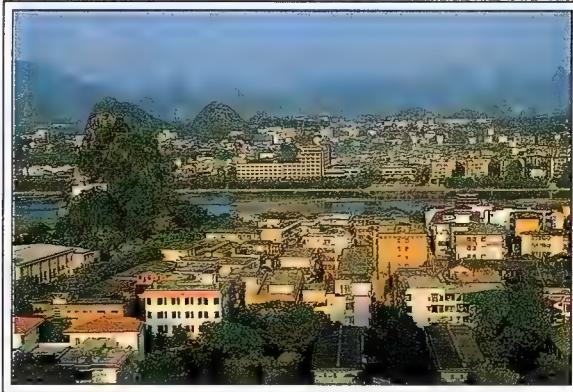
Right: One can dive from the entrance to Huanzhu Cave into Fu Bo Pool below.



Roaming the Streets of Guilin

PHOTOS BY PENG ZHEN GE
ARTICLE BY LUO SHAOGANG & JUN FENG





The city of Guilin, embraced by mountains and rivers, in the evening glow

Guilin's unique karst scenery has been the subject of countless spectacular photographs, however in order to fully appreciate its scale and beauty, one must visit the city in person. Although one could hire a car or travel the city by public bus, by far the best way to see Guilin is to bicycle or walk at one's own pace and at street level.

Guilin is not a big city, with a population of less than 400,000 inhabitants. A north-south road called Zhongshan Road forms the city's main thoroughfare. After our plane landed at the airport, I took this road into the city centre. The following morning I set off on my tour of Guilin, heading east along Ronghu (Banyan Lake) North Road.

Though the city is fairly small, it is still very time-consuming to visit it entirely on foot, therefore many tourist spots and hotels in the city provide bicycle rental services. I found a bicycle rental shop by Ronghu Lake which had prices written in both Chinese and English. The shop owner told me a few years earlier Jimmy Carter, the former president of the U.S., visited Guilin. He rented a bicycle from this

shop and enjoyed himself immensely, wandering the city at his leisure.

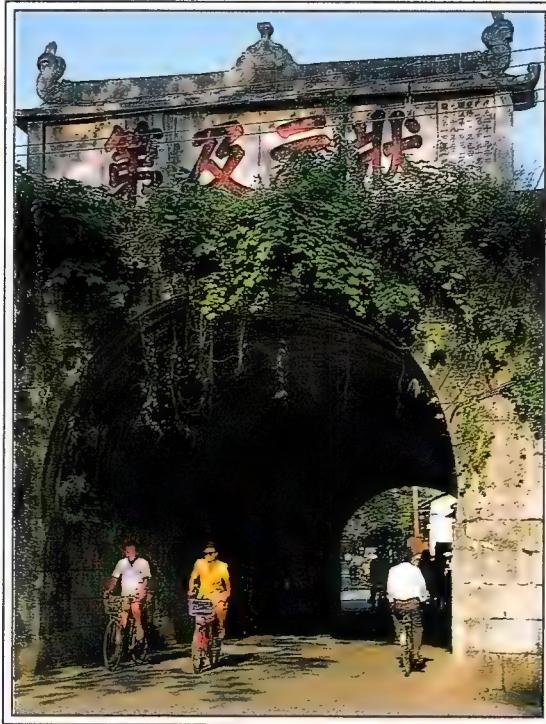
A Paradise for Outdoor Sports

I got on my bicycle and went to the first spot on my itinerary — Southern Gate by the Lijiang River, outside of Fu Bo Gate in the eastern part of the city. The gate tower was first built in the Tang Dynasty (618-907) and was expanded in later dynasties, but is still quite well preserved. A big banyan tree several hundred years old stands in front of the gate tower. As I approached, I heard music and noise coming from under the tree, where a few hundred middle-aged and elderly people were doing exercises. Some were doing aerobic dancing, some were doing Taiji Swordplay and others were simply stretching their arms and legs. The air was fresh and clean, making it an ideal place for morning exercises.

Another popular spot for early morning exercises is Fu Bo Hill Park. In fact, all parks in Guilin offer free admission for those who want to exercise before going to work, in order to encourage residents to take care of their health.

There is a cave called Huanzhu Cave in Fu Bo Hill Park, above which hangs a unique rock called Testing Sword Rock. The rock looks like it is being split by a sword, and gets its name from a legend about General Ma Yuan, also known as Fu Bo, who once tested his sword here. Many small niches, each with its own Buddha image, have been carved into the cave walls, and date back to the Tang or Song dynasties. A self-portrait of a great Song painter named Mi Fu is also found in the cave, and is considered a rare and precious work of art.

Between Fu Bo Hill and the Lijiang River there is a natural pool where one can go swimming. The depth of the water ranges from knee-deep to chest-deep, therefore it is an ideal place for beginner swimmers and children. In the summer and autumn there are sometimes hundreds of swimmers here at one time. For diving enthusiasts,



This antique archway still stands in the centre of Prince Jingjiang's Mansion.



Guilin is a popular place to take pictures for fashion advertisements (by Zhang Jinlin).



Modern architecture has sprung up in recent years in the ancient city of Guilin.



Bringing a bride home in a pedicab is a new sight in the city (by Teng Bin).

On Sundays the pet market is crowded with potential customers. Pure-bred dogs are in the greatest demand.



On hot summer evenings, Guilin's elderly residents enjoy flying their home-made kites by the river.

the most popular place is the seemingly bottomless Fu Bo Pool. An uneven water-side cliff forms natural steps, from where people can dive into the water. I watched as visitors dove in and then swam back to the cliff steps, looking very pleased with their success. Among them was a woman in her sixties, whose dives were just as graceful as her younger companions.

Another place one can go to practise diving is Shuiyue (Water and Moon) Cave on Xiangbi (Elephant Trunk) Hill. I was told that two divers once jumped from the top of Elephant Trunk Hill into the river far below as a test of their bravery.

A Geological Museum

Besides the karst hills, another characteristic feature of Guilin is its many caves. At the foot of every hill there are one or more limestone caverns with stalactites and stalagmites resembling pillars, bamboo shoots, curtains and flowers. The strangely-shaped hills and deep caves were formed due to the geological development of the limestone stratum, the erosion of underground water and changes in the earth's crust.

There is a lava geological research institute at a place called Sanlidian in the Eastern District of the city. The institute has a scientific exhibition hall, in front of which stands a statue of Xu Xiak, a well-known traveller during the Ming Dynasty. More than 1,000 rare lava specimens are on display in the hall. I saw one piece of white stalactite which was covered with numerous thin "hairs", as pretty and delicate as crystal.

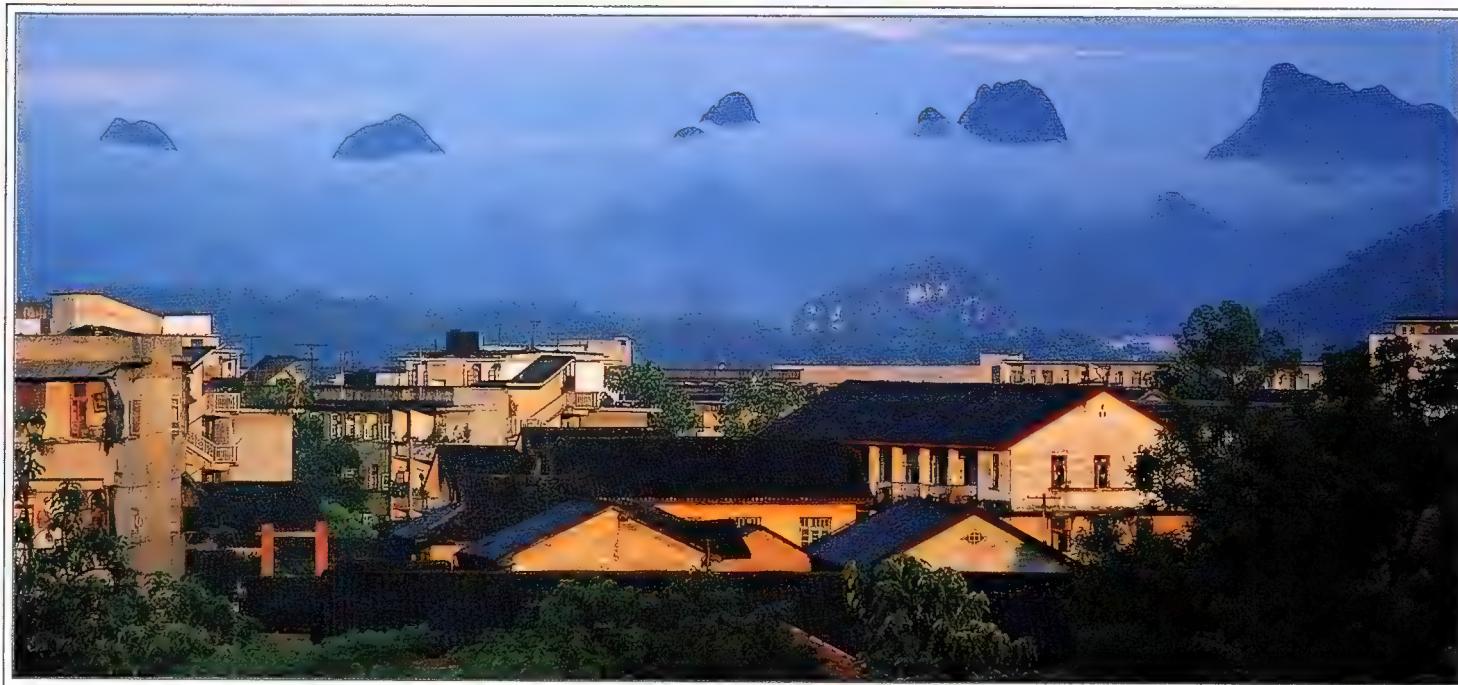
As I came to Diecai Hill in the northern part of the city, the hilly path turned into a flight of winding steps. I parked my bicycle and began to climb up from the southern side of the hill. After passing Diecai Pavilion, the scenery became even more fantastic. Inside Diecai Hill Gate there is a stone tablet called Chengren (Sacrifice) Tablet and a hall named Yangzhi (Respect) Hall, both of which were erected in memory of two well-known Ming-dynasty generals who fought against Qing troops before the change of dynasties.

Standing on the stone steps behind the hall, I saw a cave that was so narrow only one person could pass through at a time. Wind blows all year round in the cave, thus it is commonly called Windy Cave. South of Windy Cave is a flat open space large enough to hold 200-300 people. During the Qing Dynasty, this site was the lecture hall for a school. Now only a dozen old men were there, chatting and drinking tea under the trees.

Kite-Flying and Drinking Tea with the Dong People

The Lijiang River flows through Guilin, and running parallel to it is Riverside Road, which is shaded by thick trees. I put down my bicycle and walked down to the ferry along the river. The water was so clear that I could see to the bottom. Not far from the ferry several fishing boats were docked.

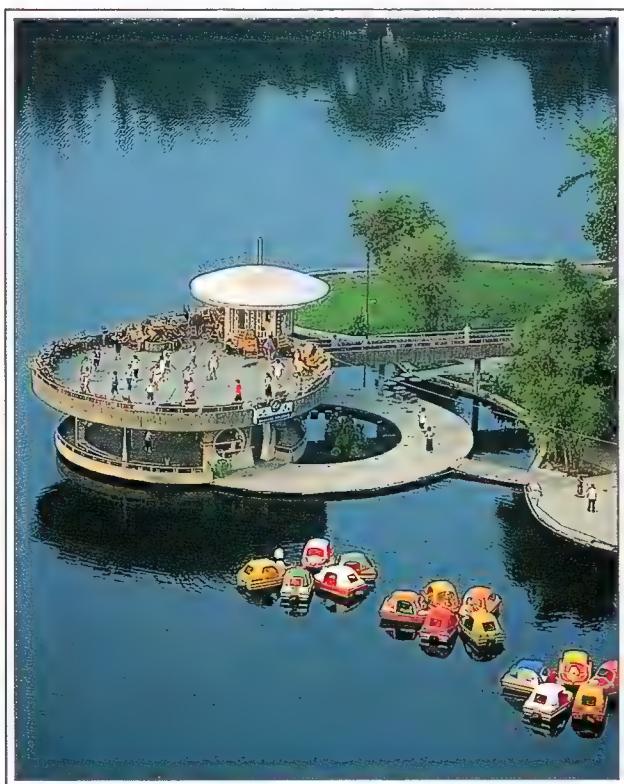
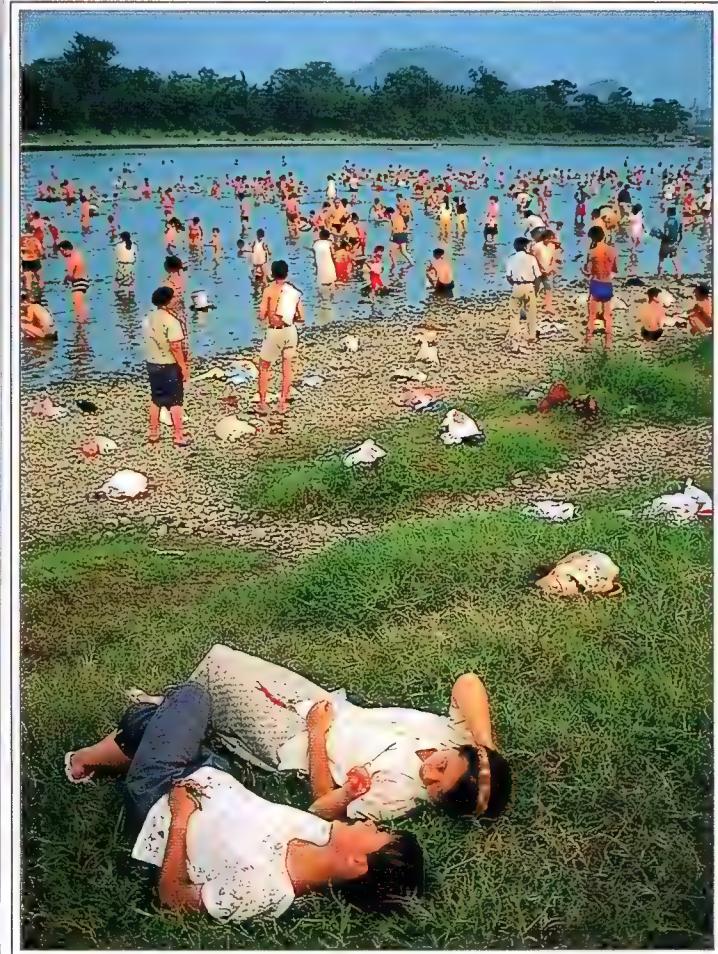
In the middle of the river is an islet called Zizhou, or Purple Islet. A kite was being flown high above the islet by an old man who was running with childlike abandon on the beach. Indeed, this is an ideal place for flying kites, as you can let them go as high as you like without having to worry about the kite being caught by trees or electric wires. I was told that fewer and fewer people fly kites now,



Guilin residents can enjoy the landscape all year round, without even leaving the comfort of their home (by Wang Wusheng).



Rafting tours from Guilin to Yangshuo are organized during the holidays for Guilin's swimming lovers.



An early morning aerobics class on Songhu Lake

In the evening this grassy sandbar near Elephant Trunk Hill becomes a favourite rendezvous for lovers, hence its name, Love Island.



Living in such a beautiful environment, it is not surprising that young painters in Guilin have won many prizes at the International Children's Painting Competition.

because there are very few young people who know how to make kites. It seems that kite-flying is interesting only if you fly a kite you have made yourself.

After crossing Jiefang (Liberation) Bridge, I rode along the Xiaodong River for about two kilometres before coming to Chuanshan (Tunnel Hill) Park. Because of a cavern halfway up the hill — which is round and bright like a full moon — the hill is also known as Moon Crag. Moon Crag stands opposite Pagoda Hill across the Xiaodong River. Pagoda Hill got its name from a Buddhist pagoda on its summit, and there is another on the bank of the river, which looks like it is floating on the water. Only when I went inside the pavilion did I realize that it was actually a teahouse.

A girl dressed in the costume of the Dong nationality came over, carrying a tray with four white porcelain teacups. She stopped in front of me and began to sing a Dong nationality song. Someone translated the lyrics for me, which went: "Oil tea sweet, oil tea fragrant, all guests should try a taste."

After singing the song she held up a tea cup in both hands and offered it to me. I drank the first cup of tea, which was called sweet, or "refreshing" tea. Dong tea comes in four varieties — sweet, sour, bitter and spicy — thus is called Four Flavour Tea. Sweet tea is always used for welcoming guests, and before serving it, the hostess has to sing a tea song. After the sweet tea, the guest can drink whatever he likes. I tasted all four flavours and found them very distinctive.

Love Island and Outdoor Snack Stalls

The Lijiang River winds around Elephant Trunk Hill, leaving large deposits of silt in its wake. After many years, the accumulated silt formed an island, which was called River-centre Island. The island is covered with trees, flowers and grass. In autumn, it is an ideal place for young people to go on dates, therefore has gained the nickname "Love Island". To reach the island I rode east from Ronghu and Shanhu lakes and turned south onto Binjiang Avenue, where I left my bicycle and walked down to the river. After crossing a small bridge, I began to hear songs drifting on the night air, accompanied by guitar music.

As soon as I stepped foot on Love Island, I could understand why it was so popular. The air was clear and fresh, and under a dim light I could see a group of young people singing and dancing joyfully. A few couples sat by the riverside, leaning closely to each other and talking quietly. Various services were on offer here, such as tables, chairs and sling chairs available for rent, and drinks for sale. I was told that there were bonfire parties if visitors came in groups, although there was no bonfire the night I was there.

At the end of a long day of sightseeing, there is nothing more enjoyable than having a snack at one of Guilin's many outdoor food stalls. Every night, when the street lights go on, snack stalls all over the city begin doing business — selling rice noodles, river snails, sweet glutinous rice cakes — and the air soon becomes filled with exotic smells.

I sat down at a rice noodle stall on Jiefang Road and ordered a bowl of stewed beef noodles. Guilin is especially well-known for its rice noodle snacks. The stall owner cut the stewed beef into thin slices and put them on top of the noodles. Then he used the flat side of his knife to crush some garlic, which was also put into the bowl.

There are no VIP seats or special service at snack stalls. No matter whether you are a Western tourist, a government official or an ordinary worker, everyone sits on a wooden bench. At the back of the stall, several people were sitting around a rectangular table and small stove, chopsticks clicking as they talked and laughed. At this time of day, the beautiful scenery of Guilin has faded into the darkness, but will return again with the next sunrise, just as it has done for centuries.

Translated by Xu Mingqiang



Comfortably perched on chairs in the shallow river, these anglers are immersed in their own thoughts.

A Garden of Minority Customs

TEXT BY ZENG XIAOMING

The Lijiang Folk Customs Garden is a newly built tourist attraction. The unique architectural structures are imitations of those in Dong and Miao villages in northern Guangxi. Songs and dances performed by ethnic people can be seen here both in the daytime and evening (by Jin Kelin).



A new tourist attraction — the Lijiang Folk Customs Garden — has recently opened to the public in Guilin. Located on Riverside Road where the Lijiang River joins the Xiaodong River, the garden looks across at a panoramic view of Diecai Hill and Fu Bo Hill. Inside the garden are a number of structures, imitations of the kind commonly seen in Guangxi's minority villages. The Dong nationality is represented by a Drum Tower, a Wind and Rain Bridge and a performing stage, and a bamboo house and totem-pole are typical to the Miao nationality. In the centre of the garden, there is a small open space which is meant to correspond to the traditional place in a village used for drying grain. On festivals, a bonfire is built in this space in the village, which people dance around. In this particular garden, of course, there is no need to put out grain to dry, so it serves solely as a dance floor both during the day and at night.

Performances in the garden are offered from time to time by young Dong and Miao dancers from the towns of Antai and Hongshui in Rongshui County. Their performances include the Zhuang nationality's Brass Drum Dance, the Dong people's Bamboo-pole Dance and the Miao's Lusheng Dance. Very often there are Qigong performances, cock-fights, snake-dancing and so on.

One of the oddest events I observed was a horse fight. Right behind the Drum Tower in the horse-fighting arena, I watched as the horses chased one another and pranced about, leaping and kicking. On the third day of the third lunar month, the Miao people in the mountainous areas north of Guilin celebrate a festival called the Lusheng Festival, and horse fights are a regular part of the programme.

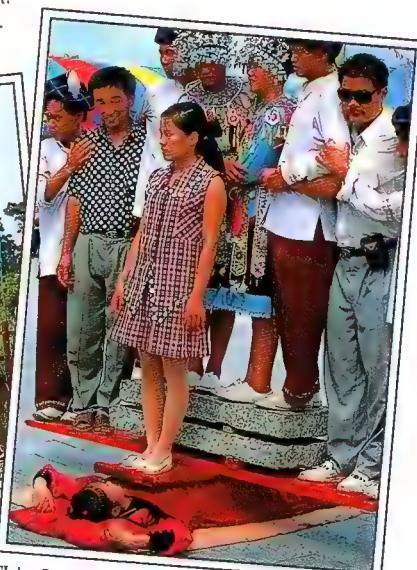
Later, we sipped tea and nibbled on ethnic snacks in a Miao bamboo house as we watched a demonstration of traditional minority crafts such as batik-waxing, wine-brewing and pottery-making. We were told that besides the performances we saw today, there were many others as well. The purpose of these performances, and indeed of the garden itself, is to teach visitors about the lives and beliefs of Guangxi's major ethnic groups.

C

Translated by Wang Mingjie



Horse fights, traditionally held during festivals in Miao areas, are performed every day in the garden (by An Ge).



This Qigong practitioner can withstand the weight of nine people and two granite slabs (by An Ge).

A Guide to Places of Interest in Guilin

PHOTOS BY PENG ZHEN GE
TEXT BY LUO SHAOGANG

Guilin, a small and ancient city, has many places of interest within the city district itself. Most of the scenic spots are fairly close to each other, only about five to ten minutes in between by bicycle. The farthest ones are Ludi (Reed Flute) Crag and Yaoshan Hill.



Xishan (West Hill) Park Located to the west of the city, this is an ideal place for hill climbers. During the Tang Dynasty (618-907) the hill was a sacred Buddhist site, and many Buddhist niches, stone carvings and statues can still be seen on the cliffs. At the southeastern foot of the hill there is a five-hectare lake and a smaller lotus pond. The Guilin Museum, the Guilin-Kumamoto Sino-Japanese Friendship Hall and the Yinshan Fazang (Hidden Hill and Dharma Library) Temple are also located by the lake.



Huaqiao (Flower) Bridge Located in Qixing (Seven Star) Park, this bridge was built in the Song Dynasty (960-1279) and is therefore one of the most ancient structures in Guilin. Six metres wide and 60 metres long, it spans the Xiaodong River and is flanked by red flowers. From the bridge one has a wonderful view of the surrounding area (by Wang Wusheng).





Fu Bo Hill Places of interest on Fu Bo Hill are Huanzhu (Returning the Pearl) Cave, Shijian (Testing Sword) Rock, Qianfo (Thousand Buddha) Crag, Tingyin (Listening to the Waves) Pavilion and Banshan (Half-up-the-Hill) Pavilion. There is an iron pot here weighing 1,000 kilograms which is said to be able to hold enough food for a thousand people, as well as a 2,700-kilogram iron bell, both of which were cast at the beginning of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). Inside Huanzhu Cave is Testing Sword Rock, a huge stalactite which hangs from the ceiling of the cave and stops just a few inches above the ground. It is said that General Fu Bo tested his sword on this rock, thus the name. Cliff carvings and stone statues from the Tang and Song dynasties can be seen inside and outside of the cave (by Zhang Xiaolin).



Chuanshan (Tunnel Hill) Park Situated in Guilin's southern suburbs, Tunnel Hill has two tourist attractions called Yueyan (Moon Crag) and Chuanyan (Tunnel Crag). Moon Crag is halfway up on the hill and gets its name from a cave here which cuts into the hill, causing the crag to look like the moon. Looking into the distance from the cave, one can see the Lijiang River winding off towards the horizon and all the wonderful scenery around it. Tunnel Crag lies at the foot of the hill. In this 500-metre-long cave there are a large number of fantastic karst formations. Across the river from Tunnel Hill is Tashan (Pagoda Hill), where there is a Ming-dynasty pagoda.



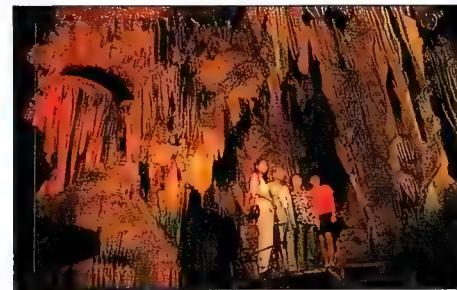
Prince Jingjiang's Tomb At the southwestern foot of Yaoshan Hill in the eastern suburbs of Guilin lies a group of 13 tombs belonging to the Ming Princes of Jingjiang. Of them, the Zhuang Jian Tomb of the third Prince of Jingjiang, Zhu Zuojing, is the most well-preserved and maintained. Its main structures include a tomb gate, the Golden Water Bridge, Xiangdian Hall, the Imperial Dome and inner and outer walls. The stone statues on both sides of the path leading to the tomb lend it a solemn air.



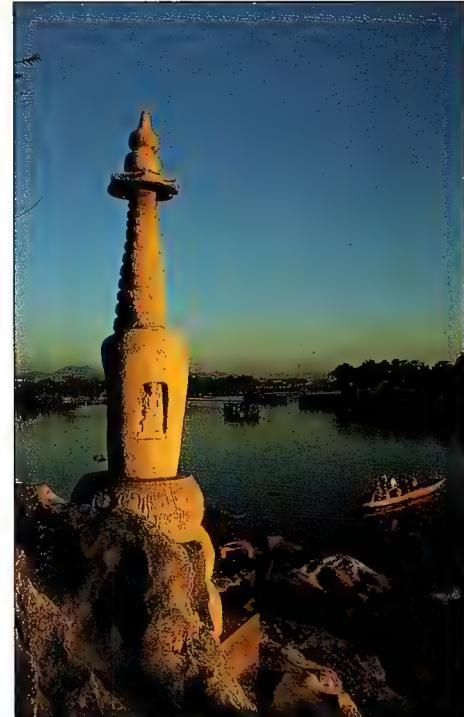
Prince Jingjiang's Mansion Located in the centre of the city, this mansion belonged to Prince Jingjiang during the early years of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). The mansion has a 1.5-kilometre-long wall around it with four gates, and each of the three gate towers has a memorial archway. In the later Qing Dynasty the mansion served as an examination hall, and is now the site of Guangxi Teachers' University. Duxiu Peak sits just behind the mansion, and a flight of 300 stone steps leads to the top. Huge cliff carvings from ancient times can be seen on the hill.



Diecai Hill Located in the northern part of the city district and facing the Lijiang River, this hill has been a well-known tourist site since ancient times. One of its peaks, called Mingyue (Bright Moon) Peak, is the highest peak in the city at 223 metres above sea level. There is a pavilion on the summit, from which one has a panoramic view of the entire city (by Wang Wusheng).



Ludi (Reed Flute) Cave Located next to the Taohua (Peach Blossom) River in the northwestern suburbs of the city and about five kilometres from downtown, this well-known scenic spot is surrounded by beautiful landscape. Reed Flute Cave is 240 metres deep, inside which are crystalline stalactites and stalagmites resembling bamboo shoots, pillars, flowers and other objects. Illuminated by ever-changing coloured lights, the cave looks like an immortal's palace, and the guide's poetic introduction enhances that image. At the entrance to the cave or by the roadside reed flutes are on sale, made from the abundant reeds growing nearby and for which the cave is named.



The Stone Stupa at Mulong (Wooden Dragon) Cave Built in the Tang Dynasty, this stupa is located outside Mulong Cave and beside the Lijiang River at the eastern foot of Diecai Hill. It is 4.3 metres high and shaped like a round bottle, with arched niches carved on the surface. This is one of Guangxi's most important cultural relics and is under provincial protection (by Teng Bin).



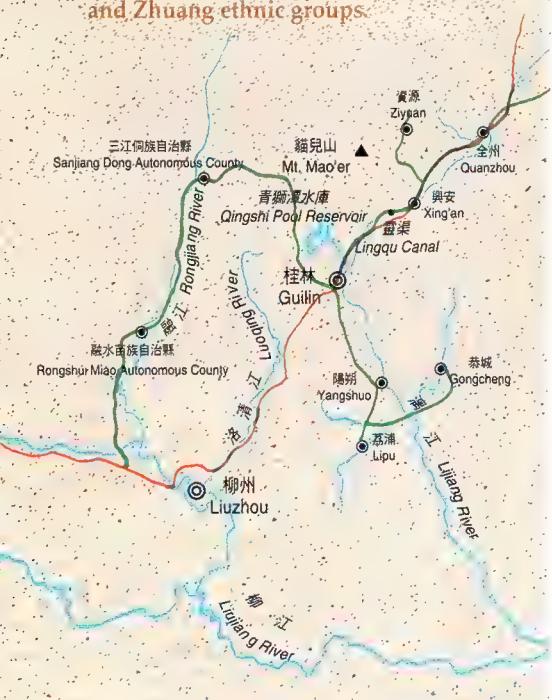
Yaoshan Hill Located about 10 kilometres east of Guilin, Yaoshan Hill rises 909 metres above sea level, the highest and largest earthen hill in Guilin. From its top one has a panoramic view of the rising hills beyond, and to reach the top a new cable car has been installed. In the spring, azaleas are in full bloom; in the summer, pine and bamboo trees turn everything green; in the autumn, maple leaves dye the whole hill shades of red, and in winter snow covers the slope. Snow on Yaoshan Hill has been one of Guilin's eight famous scenic sights for centuries (by Jin Kelin).

Translated by Xu Mingqiang

Scenic Sites in the Greater Guilin Tourist Area

TEXT BY ZENG XIAOMING

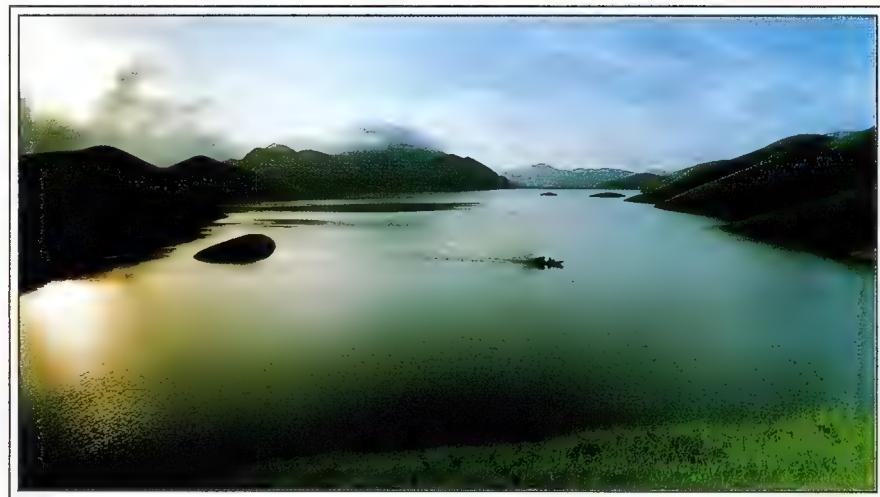
The Greater Guilin Tourist Area covers an area of over 100 kilometres and encompasses some 200 scenic sites scattered in the counties surrounding the city of Guilin in northern Guangxi. Within this area one can visit the Lingqu Canal in Xing'an, one of the oldest canals in the world; Mao'er (Kitten) Mountain, the highest peak in South China; the magnificent Longji (Dragon Back) Terraced Fields; the Zijiang River, where one can go rafting; and the unique Confucius Temple in Gongcheng. In addition, by visiting the region's many minority villages, one can learn about the life style and customs of the Dong, Yao, Miao and Zhuang ethnic groups.



Lingqu Canal in Xing'an County is a water conservancy project built in the Qin Dynasty (by Guan Jianzhong).



Tianhu Lake in Quanzhou County has a charm all its own (by Guan Jianzhong).



Mao'er Mountain, at an altitude of 2,142 metres above sea level, is the highest peak in South China (by Zhang Yan).

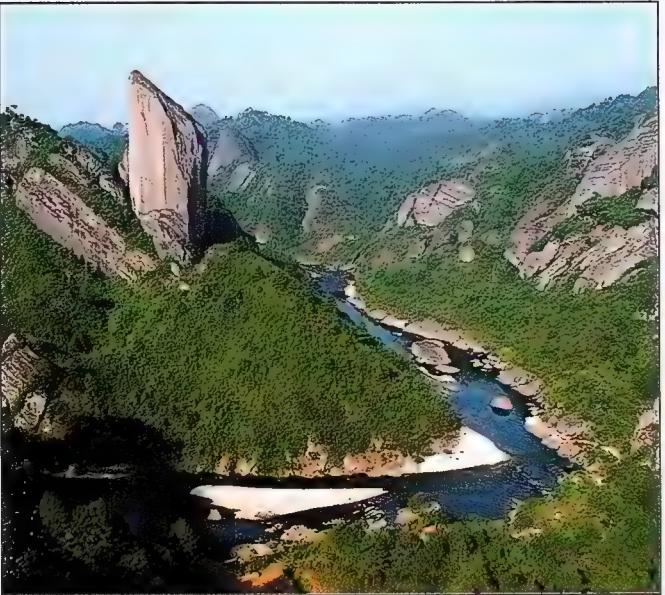


This small stream in Mao'er Mountain is the source of the Lijiang River (by Zhang Yan).



Ziyuan's Baoding Waterfall is located in the Bajiaozhai Scenic Area (by Li Qingfang).

Ziyuan is situated along the Zijiang River (by Li Qingfang).



Xing'an Located 56 kilometres north of Guilin, the county seat of Xing'an is accessible by highway. Skirting the town is the Lingqu Canal, one of three great Qin-dynasty water conservancy projects and built in 224 B.C. This well-preserved canal, which links up the Yangtze and Zhujiang river systems, plays an important role in flood prevention along the Xiangjiang River. There are also many historical sites in the vicinity worth a visit.

Mao'er Mountain, rising 2,142 metres above sea level, is the highest peak in South China. The source of the Lijiang River is found here, and the mountain's dense forests are home to more than 1,000 species of rare animals and plants. Visitors can climb the mountain along a path flanked by a primeval forest and a waterfall.

Ziyuan In a mountainous area 50 kilometres north of Xing'an is the county town of Ziyuan. The Zijiang River has recently been opened up to rafting tours, which take one on a 20-kilometre trip over 40 shoals and 30 bends. Along the way one passes fascinating scenery, quite different from that in Guilin. Rafting downstream is a thrilling experience one should not miss.

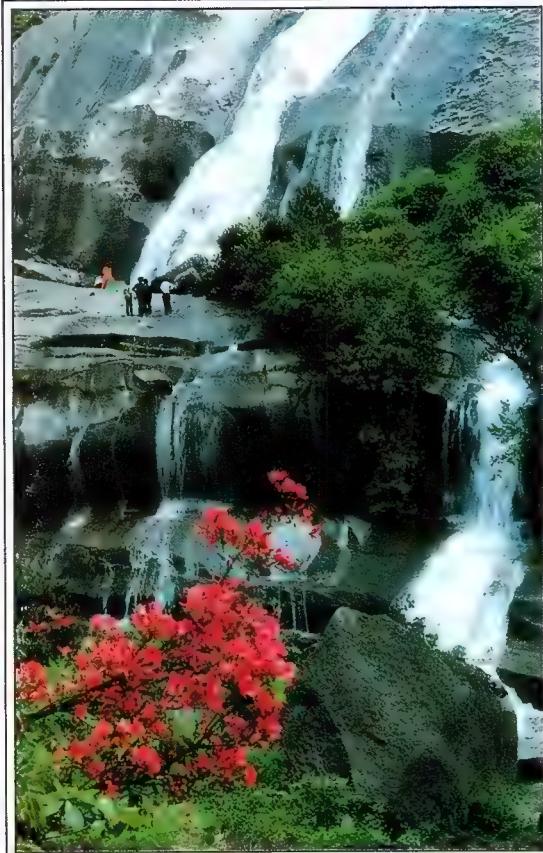
In the Bajiaozhai Scenic Area one can climb up any mountain and get a panoramic view of the hills and gullies which have been formed by red sandstone, as well as Baoding (Precious Tripod) Waterfall.

Quanzhou The county seat of Quanzhou is located 129 kilometres to the north of Guilin and borders Hunan Province. Here one can visit Xiangshan Temple and Zhenxiang Pagoda, both built in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). Every year on the three days of worshipping the Buddha — the 29th day of the second lunar month, the 19th day of the sixth lunar month and the 19th day of the ninth lunar month — pilgrims from Hunan and Guangxi come here to burn incense and pray.

In Quanzhou County there is also a highland reservoir named Tianhu (Heavenly Lake). This lake is the energy source for the Tianhu Hydraulics Power Station, which at an altitude of over 1,000 metres is the highest of its kind in Asia.

Lingchuan Ten kilometres from Guilin in Lingchuan County is Qingshui (Green Water) Pool, a summer resort with a lakeside holiday village. Activities available in the village include swimming, rowing, hunting and barbecuing. High mountains and eight groups of waterfalls, collectively named the Gudong Waterfalls, surround the lake, and make a secluded spot for visitors.

Gongcheng The county seat of Gongcheng is 100 kilometres southeast of Guilin and only a dozen kilometres from Yangshuo. Many beautiful and ancient structures are found in this city, such as a Confucius temple dating back to the Qing Dynasty, one of the four largest temples dedicated to Confucius in China. Adjoining this temple are the magnificent Guan Yu Temple, Zhou Wei Memorial Hall and Hunan Guild Hall, all graceful pieces of architecture. Gongcheng is a Yao nationality

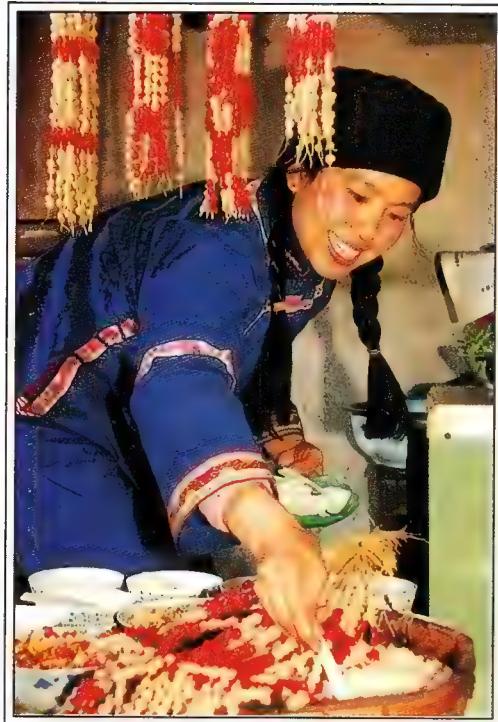


A 20-kilometre section of the Zijiang River has been opened up to adventure rafting tours (by Li Qingfang).



The most famous of Gongcheng's many ancient buildings is this Confucius Temple (by Zhang Yan).

Bamboo tube rice is a specialty of the Miao in Longsheng (by Guan Jianzhong).



Longji Village in Longsheng County is the home of the Zhuang minority. The terraced fields at the entrance to the village are a fantastic site (by Zhang Xiaolin).

autonomous county and an excellent place to see these people's customs and life style.

Longsheng The county seat of Longsheng lies 100 kilometres northwest of Guilin, about a two-hour bus ride. The terraced fields here have long been well-known tourist attractions in China. Layer upon layer of terraced fields cover the mountain from the foot to the top. Home to the Zhuang, Yao, Dong and Miao peoples, Longsheng is a good place to see how all these minority peoples live. One can also try local delicacies such as the Zhenzhu (Pear) Oil Tea of the Yao, the Longji (Dragon Back) Wine of the Zhuang, the sour fish and meat of the Dong and the bamboo tube rice of the Miao. There is a hotel here called the Ailing Hot Spring Hotel, which is built in a dense mountain forest and is an ideal place for a quiet holiday.

Sanjiang Sanjiang Dong Autonomous County is situated at the juncture of Guangxi, Hunan and Guizhou, just 50 kilometres from Longsheng. Dong architecture is both unique and beautiful: In every Dong village there are stunning wooden archways, residences, drum towers and Wind and Rain bridges. There are 72 Wind and Rain bridges in Sanjiang County, the largest of which is the Chengyang Wind and Rain Bridge. This 64-metre-long bridge is one of the county's most important protected relics, and is representative of the architecture of the Dong people.

The life style of the Dong people is also quite unique. Traditional festivals include the Bull Fighting Festival, the Buffalo Respect Festival, the Pohui Festival and the Huapao Festival. The grandest of these is the Huapao Festival, which is usually attended by over 10,000 participants and falls on the third day of the third lunar month.

Singing, dancing and embroidery all play an important role in the lives of the Dong people. In Mengjiang's Yaodong Township, when visitors approach the entrance to a Dong village they are barred by female villagers, who sing to ask the guests where they have come from. In Dong families, it is customary for the daughter to offer tea to guests while singing a tea offering song. One can also see traditional weaving and embroidery techniques and dances in many Dong villages.

Rongshui Rongshui, 168 kilometres to the east of Guilin, is a Miao autonomous county. The Miao people here are born dancers and singers. At the Lusheng Festival on the 13th day of the first lunar month and the Gulongpo Festival on the 16th day of the same month, the Miao people dance the Caitang Dance and the Mangge Dance. Wearing colourful costumes with graceful embroidery and gorgeous ornaments which differ from village to village, Miao girls gather at the festivals specially to look for spouses. A horse race is also held to celebrate the occasion.

Translated by K.V. Ku

Longsheng's Yao women have been hand-weaving their own clothes for centuries (by Zhang Yan).



These Yao women are residents of a mountainous area in Lipu County, not very far from Yangshuo (by Guan Jianzhong).

The Chengyang Wind and Rain Bridge, a representative piece of traditional Dong architecture in Sanjiang County, is a State-level protected monument (by Qin Xiongming).



Sanjiang is a Dong autonomous county (by Zhang Xiaolin).



A lusheng pipe performance at the Gulongpo Festival held in Rongshui County's Xiangfen Township (by Zhang Xiaolin)



On the 16th day of the first lunar month, the Miao hold their Mangge Festival in Rongshui County's Ancui Township (by Zhang Xiaolin).

Western Fashion Models Come to Sanjiang

PHOTOS & TEXT BY JIN KELIN



One of the fashion models in a Dong village in Sanjiang County

Of all the places in this large world, the photographers of a French fashion magazine chose Sanjiang, a remote settlement of the Dong minority, as the setting for a recent photo shoot. Starting out in Guilin, this group of models, photographers, costume designers and make-up artists went by coach to the far northwest of Guangxi. Despite travelling on roads full of hairpin turns and precipitous mountain drops for four long hours, everyone was in high spirits when they arrived, and greatly enjoyed the spectacular scenery.

Sanjiang is the seat of the Sanjiang Dong Autonomous County, home to a large number of Dong nationality people. It has a simple and rustic charm, and the photographers found the surroundings an ideal setting for their models. It was modernity against primitiveness, or a good mixture of the two. The magnificent Drum Tower and the models' simple, casual wear formed a sharp contrast, but at the same time created a superbly artistic image.

There were two models, one Canadian woman and another named Monica, who was half-Japanese and half-American. The beauty of both the East and the West were reflected in her gentle, serene features and well-proportioned figure. The traditional Dong costumes, when worn by these two women, seemed to take on a look of Western elegance. The Canadian model preferred the simple lines and striking colours of a Dong dress. Its lapels and button-hooks were elaborately made and the sleeves were short and wide, setting off her silver necklaces and other jewellery. Monica was particularly fond of Dong silver ornaments such as bracelets and neck rings. Clad in their minority costumes and silver jewellery, they posed as the photographers took picture after picture.

One of Sanjiang's most renowned structures is called the Wind and Rain Bridge, and is a type of architecture common to many Dong villages in this area. Despite being built without a single nail or rivet, it has withstood years of wind and rain. The building on top of the bridge is towering and magnificent, and was used as a back-drop for many of the photographs. They had long shots, they had close-ups and every other possible kind of shot taken. The stylish Western women in front of this traditional Dong structure made an excellent subject for a photo.

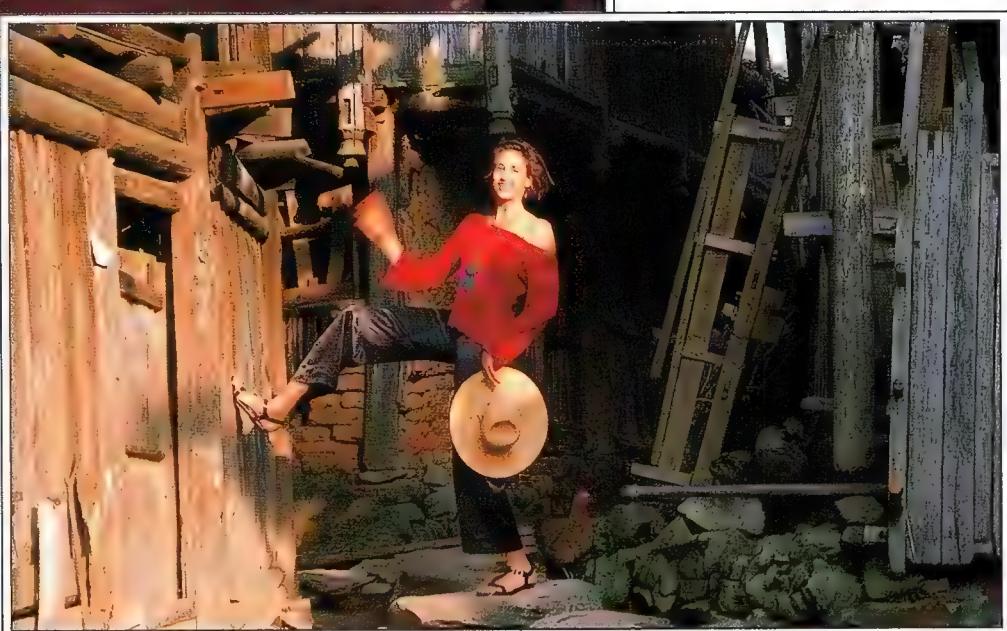
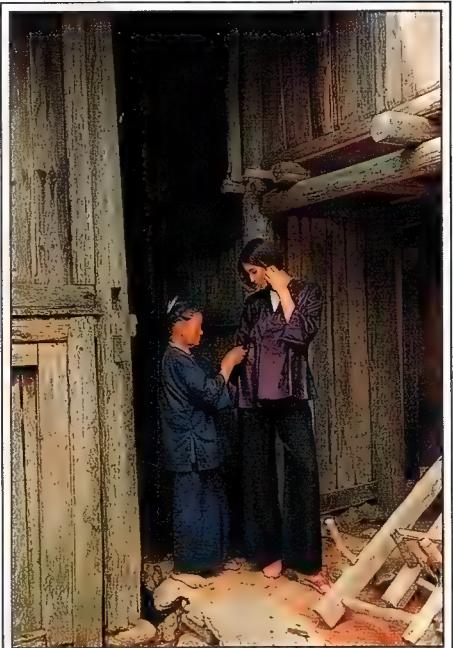
As soon as they ended their work, the photographers and models hurried to leave. They seemed to be always on the move, looking for the best backgrounds for their photos. The world, in their eyes, was probably rather small. But for a brief moment in time, their fast-paced, jet-setting world and the simple lives of the Dong people intersected in the remote town of Sanjiang.

Translated by Wang Mingjie



With pupils at the Sanjiang Primary School

An elderly Dong woman helps prepare for the next shot.



A Dong residence served as the setting for this shot.

ShangHai New Union Textiles



Our corporation deals in:

EXPORTING: YARN-DYED FABRIC, BLEACHED FABRIC, PRINTED CALICO,

GARMENTS, KNITWEAR, BEDCLOTHES, KITCHEN CLOTHS AND OTHER PRODUCTS.

IMPORTING: TEXTILE MATERIALS AND ACCESSORIES, GARMENT MATERIALS,

DYESTUFFS, PACKING MATERIALS, TEXTILE MACHINERY SPARE PARTS AND MORE.



SHANGHAI NEW UNION TEXTILES IMPORT & EXPORT CORPORATION

Add: 1341 Yu Yuan Road, Shanghai 200050, P.R. China.

Tel: 2511532 Fax: 86-21-2510701 Tlx: 33370 NUTEX CN Cable: "NUTEX" SHANGHAI

Opinion Poll

Name: (Mr/Mrs/Ms) _____

Address: _____

(A) My general impression of issue No. _____ of China Tourism:

	Very good	Good	Fair	Not Impressed
Cover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Design	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pictures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Text	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(B) Which pictures did you like or dislike most?

(Please quote issue, pages or picture captions)

Reasons _____

(C) Which articles did you find the most or least interesting?

(Please quote issue, pages or article titles)

Reasons _____

(D) Have you any suggestions which will help us to improve our magazine?

Back Issues and Bound Volume Order Form

I want to order the following item(s):

1. Back Issue No. _____ Total _____ copies, Magazine price + Postage = (HK\$) _____

2. Bound Volume No. _____ Total _____ copies, Unit price + Postage = (HK\$) _____

Cheque enclosed (payable to: **HONG KONG CHINA TOURISM PRESS**)

Please charge to my credit card:

Visa Mastercard American Express

Card No: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Signature: _____

Please fill in the following information in capital letters.

Name: (Mr/Ms) _____ Tel No: _____

Address: _____

Prices (HK\$) English Edition		
Back Issues	#55-96	\$14
	#97-114	\$20
	#115-138	\$25
	#139-150	\$30
	#151-162	\$33
Bound Volumes	#8(49-54)	\$90
	#9(55-60)	
	#10(61-66)	
	#11(67-72)	
	#12(73-78)	\$100
	#13(79-84)	
	#14(85-90)	
	#15(91-96)	\$130
	#16(97-102)	
	#17(103-108)	
	#18 (109-114)	
	#19 (115-120)	\$150
	#20 (121-126)	

Postage (Each copy) HK\$		
Hong Kong Surface	Back Issue	Bound Volume
Macau, PRC, Taiwan Surface	\$5.70	\$40
Overseas Surface	\$8.70	\$33
Overseas Surface Registered	\$16	\$63
Overseas (ASEAN) Airmail	\$27	\$74
Overseas (Non-ASEAN) Airmail	\$23.50	\$175
	\$31.40	\$234

Country/Region: _____ Date: _____

*Please fill in and return the above order form to:

HK CHINA TOURISM PRESS

17/F V. HEUN BUILDING,

138 QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG

POSTAGE
WILL BE
PAID BY
LICENSEE
郵費由持
牌人支付

NO POSTAGE
STAMP
NECESSARY
POSTED IN
HONG KON
如在本港投
母須貼上郵

Business Reply Service
Licence No: 1739

香港中國旅遊出版社
HK CHINA TOURISM PRESS
17/F., V. HUEN BUILDING
138 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL
HONG KONG

CHINA TOURISM MAGAZINE
Major Topics Listing

*1 Beijing
*2 Shanghai
*3 Hangzhou
*4 Nanjing
*5 Henan
*6 Inner Mongolia
*7 Guangdong
*8 Yunnan
*9 Jiuzhaigou, Sichuan
*10 The Northwest
*11 Xinjiang
*12 Guilin
*13 Mt. Huashan
*14 Xishuangbanna & Mt. Huangshan
*15 Beijing in Autumn
*16 Sichuan
*17 Chaozhou & Swatow
*18 Hunan
*19 Fujian
*20 Zhejiang & Jiangsu
*21 Tibet
*22 Shanxi
*23 The Grand Canal
*24 Gansu
*25 China's Minorities
*26 Shandong
*27 Hainan Island
*28 Shaanxi
*29 Anhui
*30 Guizhou
*31 Hebei & Tianjin
*32 China in Winter
*33 Plateaux of Sichuan
*34 Northern Guangdong
*35 Qinghai

*36 Western Hunan & Mt. Bodga
*37 Loess Plateau
*38 Jiangxi
*39 Southern Fujian
*40 Inner Mongolia
*41 Jilin
*42 Xinjiang
*43 Heilongjiang
*44 Zhejiang & Jiangsu
*45 Guangxi
*46 Ningxia
*47 Yunnan
*48 China-wide Special
*49 China-wide Special
*50 Hubei
*51 Shanghai
*52 Beijing I
*53 Beijing II
*54 China's Minorities
*55 Liaoning
*56 Guangdong
*57 Hunan
*58 Jiangnan
*59 Sichuan
*60 China-wide Special
*61 Western Jiangsu
*62 Guizhou
*63 Northern Jiangsu
*64 Xinjiang
*65 Chengde
*66 Northeastern Border
*67 China-wide Special
68 Southern Gansu
*69 Hainan Island
70 Hangzhou
71 Henan

72 Xishuangbanna
*73 China-wide Special
74 Sichuan-Tibet Special
75 Huangguoshu Falls
76 Shandong Special
77 Beibu Gulf Special
*78 Silk Road First Section Special
79 China-wide Special
*80 Jiangxi Special
*81 Xinjiang Travel Special
*82 Xinjiang Travel Special
*83 Hulun Buir Grassland Special
*84 Northern Guangdong
85 China-wide Special
86 Beijing Special
*87 Fujian Special
*88 Guangxi Special
89 Northern Shaanxi
90 Southern Anhui
91 Eastern Zhejiang
92 Gansu Corridor Special
*93 Southern Jiangsu
*94 Sichuan's Liangshan Mountains
95 Shanxi Special
96 Ningxia Special
*97 Hainan Special
*98 Taiwan Special
*99 Western Hunan
*100 China-wide Special
*101 Grand Canal (I)
*102 Grand Canal (II)
*103 Western Hubei
104 Guizhou Special
105 Liaoning Special
106 Qinghai Special
107 Pearl River Delta
108 Yunnan's Hengduan Range
109 China-wide Special
110 Sichuan Special
111 Wumeng Mountains
112 One Day in China
113 New Destinations Special
114 Heilongjiang Special
115 Southeast Gansu
116 Shanghai Special
117 Henan Special
118 Tibet Special
119 Southwestern Silk Road (I)
120 Southwestern Silk Road (II)
121 Border Crossings Special
122 Central/Southern Hebei
123 Jilin Special
124 Beijing Special
125 Jiangxi Special
126 Taiwan Straits Special
127 China-wide Special
128 Southern China
129 Southwestern Shandong
130 Qinghai's River Source
131 Xi'an and Central Shaanxi
132 Along the Route of the Long March (I)
133 Along the Route of the Long March (II)
134 Tianjin Special
135 Jiangsu-Zhejiang
136 Central Yunnan
137 Qing Imperial Excursions to the North
138 Yangtse River Delta
139 China-wide Special (I)
140 China-wide Special (II)
141 Xishuangbanna Special

(*out of stock)

New Home? Got Married? Been Promoted!

Please fill in the new address below, and return it (with your old address label) to us.

Name: _____ New Address: _____

Tel: _____ Subscriber No.: _____ Date of Address Change: _____

源·····魅力

555®

Established in 1928, Guangzhou Battery Factory is not only a large self-managed import and export enterprise, but also the largest specialized producer of dry batteries in the country at present. Our output and export of dry batteries ranks us first in this field.

Guangzhou Battery Factory has consolidated both domestic and foreign battery production techniques, adopted advanced technology and strengthened scientific management to make Guangzhou Batteries which have been produced for over 60 years a more sophisticated and quality product. It manufactures zinc-manganese, alkaline zinc-manganese silver-zinc, lithium-manganese. Lithium-silver chloride and lithium-copper chloride batteries, including "555" brand, "Tigerlead" brand, "Aviation" brand, "Five Rams" brand and "Flying Elephant" brand batteries, 8 series, 72 types, altogether. Our "555" brand battery is the only product in the battery industry to have won a National Silver Medal, and Golden Medal in the first Beijing International Fair. In 1990, "555" LR6 Basic batteries were awarded a National Quality Gold Medal.

The products of our factory have the characteristics of excellent quality, and are warmly received by users. Our batteries sell well in more than 20 countries and regions, including Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and America.

Add: 132 Gongye Rd. (N) Guangzhou, China
Tel: 4449532 4429126 Cable: 2008
Telex: 44581 GBFAY CN Fax: 4429052

地址：廣州工業大道北 132 號
電話：4449532 4429126 電掛：2008
電傳：44581 GBFAY CN 傳真：4429052

廣州電池廠始建於一九二八年，是目前全國規模最大、產銷量、出口量為全國同行業之首，並直接經營出口電池業務的乾電池生產專業廠。該廠集中外電池生產技術之精華，吸收世界先進科技，加強科學管理，使其有六十多年歷史的廣州電池更加精益求精。產品有鋅錳、鹼性鋅錳、銀鋅、鉀錳、鉀氯化銀、鉀氯化亞銅等八個系列的"555"牌、虎頭牌、航空牌、五羊牌、飛象牌等各種型號的乾電池，共七十二個品種。"555"牌電池分別榮獲國家銀質獎和北京首屆國際博覽會金獎，"555"牌 LR6 碱性電池於一九九〇年獲國質量金質獎。該廠產品以質量優良遠銷東南亞、中東、非洲、歐美等七十多個國家和地區，深受用戶歡迎。

GUANGZHOU BATTERY FACTORY

廣州電池廠



廣州電池廠
廣州市電池工業公司



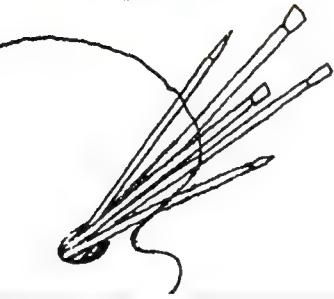
An Artist's Journey to Tibet

PHOTOS & ARTICLE BY LI ZHONGXIANG

1

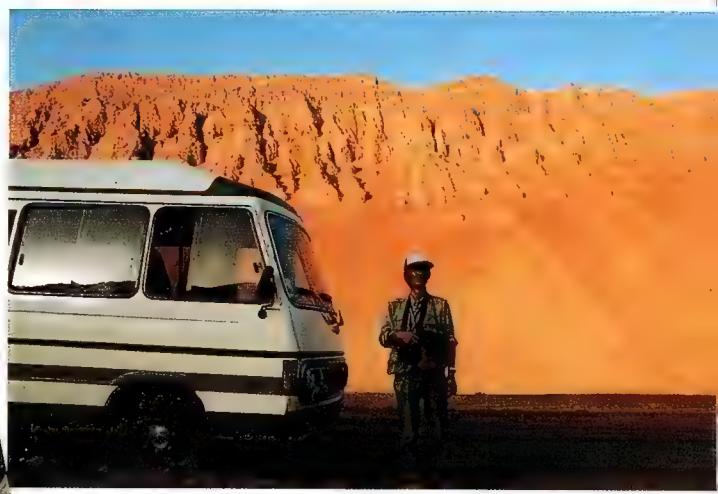


2



The wind-swept sands of Qinghai Province (1) ■ The Mani stones of Tibet are works of art that can be seen all along the roadsides (2). ■ Huoyan (Flaming) Mountain lives up to its name (3). ■ Qinghai Lake at sunset (4).

3



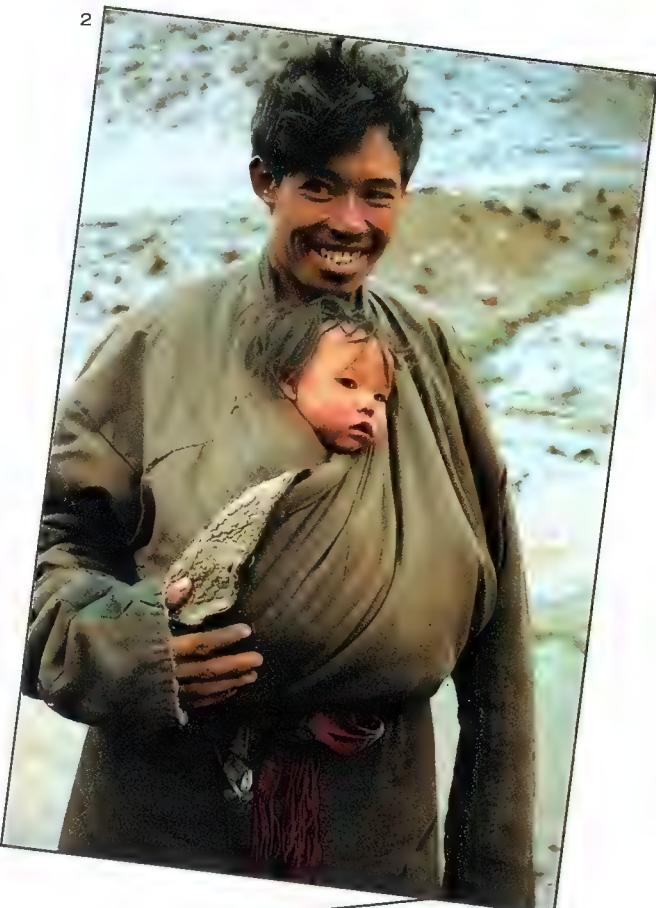
4

A section of the ancient Great Wall at Jiayuguan in Gansu Province (5) ■ Part of the old city of Xigazê in Tibet (6) ■ Wild flowers and a gnarled tree on the Qiangtang Grassland (7) ■ Stripes of snow cover the earth in northern Tibet, making it look like a carved woodblock ready for printing (8).





Portraits of Tibetans (1-6)



As an artist, I love to travel — to see mountains and rivers that have not been subjected to destruction by man, and to see historical and cultural sites that have remained unchanged over time.

It was with this desire that, on August 26, 1992, I boarded a mini-bus with a driver named Mr. Wang behind the wheel, together with seven other artists from Yunnan. Loaded with supplies including canned vegetables, tents, high-pressure cookers and oxygen cylinders, our bus drove out of Kunming, the capital of Yunnan Province, and headed towards western China, where we were going to do field sketches and take photographs.

We first drove along a section of the southern route of the ancient Silk Road to Chengdu, from where we continued on through the Minjiang River Valley and entered the Zoige Grassland. At this time of year, many varieties of wild flowers were in full bloom on the expansive grassland. After travelling a whole day through a sea of green grass, we finally arrived at Labrang Monastery, the world's second largest Tibetan Buddhist temple of the Gelugpa Sect, located in the town of Xiahe in Gansu Province. In the light of the setting sun, the temple sparkled a brilliant gold. Inside, it was permeated with a strong religious atmosphere, with

large prayer wheels turning and pious followers of the faith performing worship.

Grotto Art in the Gansu Corridor

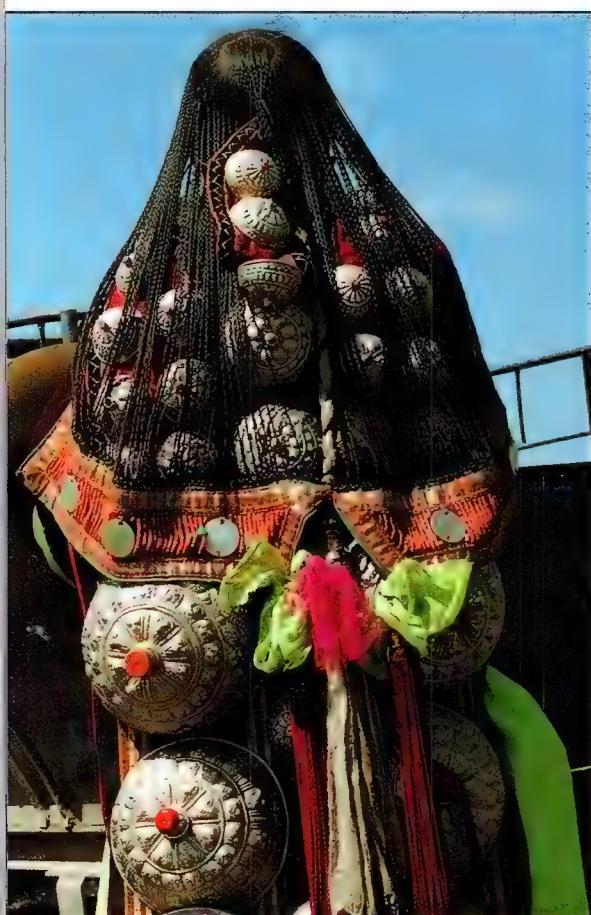
After crossing the Yellow River we pushed on through the Gansu Corridor, which served as the northern route of the Silk Road 2,000 years ago. An area rich in grotto art, this is a place every artist longs to see. In Bingling Temple at a town called Liujiaxia, we saw murals and painted sculptures that unmistakably revealed traces of the ancient art of the Western Regions, a rare art form that was long ago absorbed into China's early Buddhist art.

Another reward of being here was that with just 10-20 yuan, one could buy over a dozen genuine Wuzhu bronze coins used in the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 220) — certainly a pleasant surprise to the coin collectors in our group!

We quickly passed through Lanzhou, the capital of Gansu Province, and Xining, the capital of Qinghai Province, and went straight to Ta'er Monastery, one of the six major temples of the Gelugpa Sect of Tibetan Buddhism, located in Huangzhong County. To our great disappointment, we were unable to see the temple's renowned Tantric

murals, as they had been covered up with white cloth.

We spent that night at a fish farm by Qinghai Lake. The next day a major Buddhist ceremony was being held near the Heima River and about a thousand Tibetans turned out, dressed in their colourful and unique attire. This occasion provided much impetus and inspiration for our creative works.



The next part of our journey took us over the Qilian Mountains towards Jiayuguan. Unfortunately, the road was in poor condition and the bus broke down several times. We could find neither shelter nor restaurants. However, travelling at night in the desert under the silver moonlight gave us a unique perspective on the northwestern section of the ancient Great Wall, one of the sections that has never been repaired and thus still retains its original look.

Dunhuang and its famous Buddhist grottoes is another sacred place for artists, and is known as the world's largest art gallery. The 492 caves here have bore witness to 1,500 years of history and the rise and fall of eleven dynasties. The murals here, if lined up side by side, would stretch for 45 kilometres. We studied the murals from morning till evening with the help of flashlights. The rich and dazzling colours, the varied compositions, the wide range of images and the smooth and rhythmic lines filled us with inspiration. Although we had examined these paintings time and again in books, it was nothing like seeing them at close range right where they were first created.

Leaving the Mogao Grottoes, we trudged through the sand to Mingsha (Singing Sand) Hill. Suddenly an open space appeared, and the rolling sand in the glow of sunset seemed particularly gentle and beautiful. The water in Yueya (Crescent Moon) Spring flowed peacefully through this surprising oasis.

The Mid-Autumn Festival (September 12) was suddenly upon us, and after running around half the town of Dunhuang, we finally found some moon cakes to celebrate the occasion. We also bought watermelons and grapes, and though the cakes were as hard as rocks, we nonetheless enjoyed ourselves greatly.

Pilgrims on their way from Qinghai to Tibet (1) ■ The smiling faces of two inhabitants of Tibet's high plateau (2) ■ These herders travelling the Qinghai-Tibet route provided inspiration for future engravings (3). ■ A sketch of Longtan Lake in Lhasa (4)



As we drove out of Dunhuang and into the desert we were engulfed by endless sand, which was interrupted only by camel grass (*Peganum harmala*) and red willow bushes. In Xinjiang, as we pushed on to Hami and Turpan, we passed an oasis set against the snow-capped Tianshan Mountains, which were looming large on the horizon. The road piercing through the desert was flat and straight. Sometimes, there were no visible road tracks and the bus bounced along in the vast wilderness.

We crossed the red Huoyan (Flaming) Mountain and came to the site of the ancient town of Gaochang, which prospered over 2,000 years ago. The dry climate here means that the ruins of streets, temples and workshops of the original town are still visible. The remains of the collapsed walls stand lonely in the sun, giving one a feeling of utter desolation.

Aydingkol Lake is the lowest point in China and the second lowest point in the entire world. As proof of this, we took a picture of a tablet carved with the words "-154.74 metres". We drove past the Kongque (Peacock) River, leaving Korla and Weili behind us in the dust. We looked at the map and realized that we were now in the Taklimakan Desert in the Tarim Basin. The road along the Tarim River revealed traces of man's defeat in his fight with nature. The seemingly gentle, fine sand has for thousands of years buried village after village, town after town, cultural site after cultural site....

After Ruqiang, we were only 80 kilometres away from the site of the ancient town of Loulan. We wanted very much to go in and take a look, however we knew that making the trip without the proper preparations would mean risking our lives. It was five days later when we finally came out of the desert. Fed up with eating nothing but ship biscuits, we went straight to a restaurant and ordered five

kilogrammes of meat, taking the manager somewhat by surprise. Perhaps he had never before seen people as hungry as we were.

Golmud to Tibet by Bus

On September 20, we arrived at Golmud, where we were to make preparations for our trip into Tibet. A highway through the desert runs 1,155 kilometres from Golmud to Lhasa. The section of road from the Kunlun Mountains to Wudaoliang, located 4,500 metres above sea level, is the most dangerous part for sufferers of altitude sickness, as the air here is quite thin. As the bus drove along, the weather suddenly changed and dark clouds gathered. Soon a heavy snow started to fall and the wind began to howl. Then just a moment later, the snow was replaced by hail the size of peas that kept banging against the bus roof. Occasionally, the Kunlun Mountains revealed their precipitous peaks through the clouds and snow, reminding us of their magnitude.

We arrived at Wudaoliang at dusk, but were still 150 kilometres away from the next food and lodging station on the Tuotuo River. We had to spend the night where we were. We had heard that it was a taboo to sleep at Wudaoliang, for one could easily suffocate to death at that altitude. In a group, there must always be someone on guard to remind others of the danger of dozing off. With this apprehension in our minds, we spent a long time tossing and turning in bed. We were, however, so exhausted that everybody eventually fell asleep. When we woke up, it was already daylight and we were able to get up without any discomfort. Excited and in high spirits, we began taking pictures of the snow-covered mountains and the local Tibetans.

Later, while chatting with some drivers who were veterans of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, they all said that now that we had slept at





1

Wudaoliang, we could do well anywhere in Tibet. By this point, the fear of altitude sickness had completely given way to enthusiasm. Even Mr. Lu, who was the least strong person in the group, sang along with the cassette recorder in the bus. Soon we found ourselves at the 5,231-metre-high Tanggula Mountain Pass, where everyone rushed to take photos of the pass marker.

2



Before we knew it, and amidst much chatting and laughing, we entered Tibet. The boundless pastures of northern Tibet were green with late September grass. The mountains were solemnly white and the lakes extremely quiet. Herds of cattle and flocks of sheep grazed on the grassland, and colourful flowers rolled and turned in the wind like tiny pinwheels.

Mani stones — rocks with Buddhist scriptures painted on them — passed by our window from time to time, decorated with colourful prayer flags. Hundreds of yak sculls carved with scriptures were piled high, a Tibetan gesture of respect for the snowy mountains.

Lhasa's Pagor Street — Home of Religion and Art

We entered Lhasa on September 26. Tall new buildings lined the wide, tree-shaded streets of the city. Business in the shops was brisk and the streets were bustling with traffic and pedestrians. It seemed that not even Lhasa had escaped modernization and urbanization. In front of Zuglakang (Jokhang) Temple, a spacious square had been completed. The stands on Pagor Street were crowded with businessmen from various parts of the country as well as Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim and India. Foreign visitors toured the place, filming and shopping. The place seemed much more prosperous than my last trip here 10 years ago.

Tibet is not only a world of religion, it is also a world of art. On Pagor Street people were reciting scriptures, playing religious music

and talking in various languages, creating a symphony of sound. The visual images were equally fantastic: jewellery, jade, colourful silk and satin on sale, beautifully painted houses, Buddha statues and Buddhist flags, and blossoming flowers on everyone's sills.

Towards evening, we climbed up Yaowang (Bhaisajyaraja) Mountain to get a good view of the Potala Palace. Built on a mountain slope, the Potala's golden spires, Dharma wheels and red and white eaves rose high above all the other structures in the vicinity. The Dragon King Pool behind the palace hall was no longer as green and quiet as it used to be, and many small pools had completely disappeared. Only one patch of a 1,000-year-old forest still remained luxuriant.

Remembering a lesson I learned a decade ago when I came to Lhasa and found no vegetables, this time we brought huge cartons of canned vegetables, only to discover that we were well behind the times. Markets in Lhasa sold a great variety of fresh vegetables and nobody wanted canned vegetables anymore.

The first destination we had planned to visit in Tibet was Ngari, where there is a divine mountain and sacred lake. A Mr. Han Shuli of the Tibet Artists Association looked at our bus and shook his head. He told us that the bus was too low for the road to Ngari, which had deep pits. Sometimes, he said, there was no road at all. A bus like ours would never make it into the region. He then planned an alternate route south to Xigazê, Tingri and Zham, then across the Himalayas to see the world's highest peak, Qomolangma (Mount Everest).

An Encounter with the Himalayas

We said goodbye to Lhasa on October 1 and drove towards Xigazê along the Yarlung Zangbo River. Still over ten kilometres away from our destination, we saw the high walls of Zhaxilhunbu (Tashilhunpo) Monastery below Xizhug Peak. Built in 1447, Zhaxilhunbu Monastery is Tibet's second largest structure, next only to the Potala Palace. The 26.7-metre-high copper Buddha statue in Qamba Hall is the largest of its kind in China. We walked uphill to get a bird's-eye view of Zhaxilhunbu Square, where a Buddhist religious ceremony was taking place and Tibetan operas were being staged. The actors were clad in bright red costumes and wore ghost and demon masks.

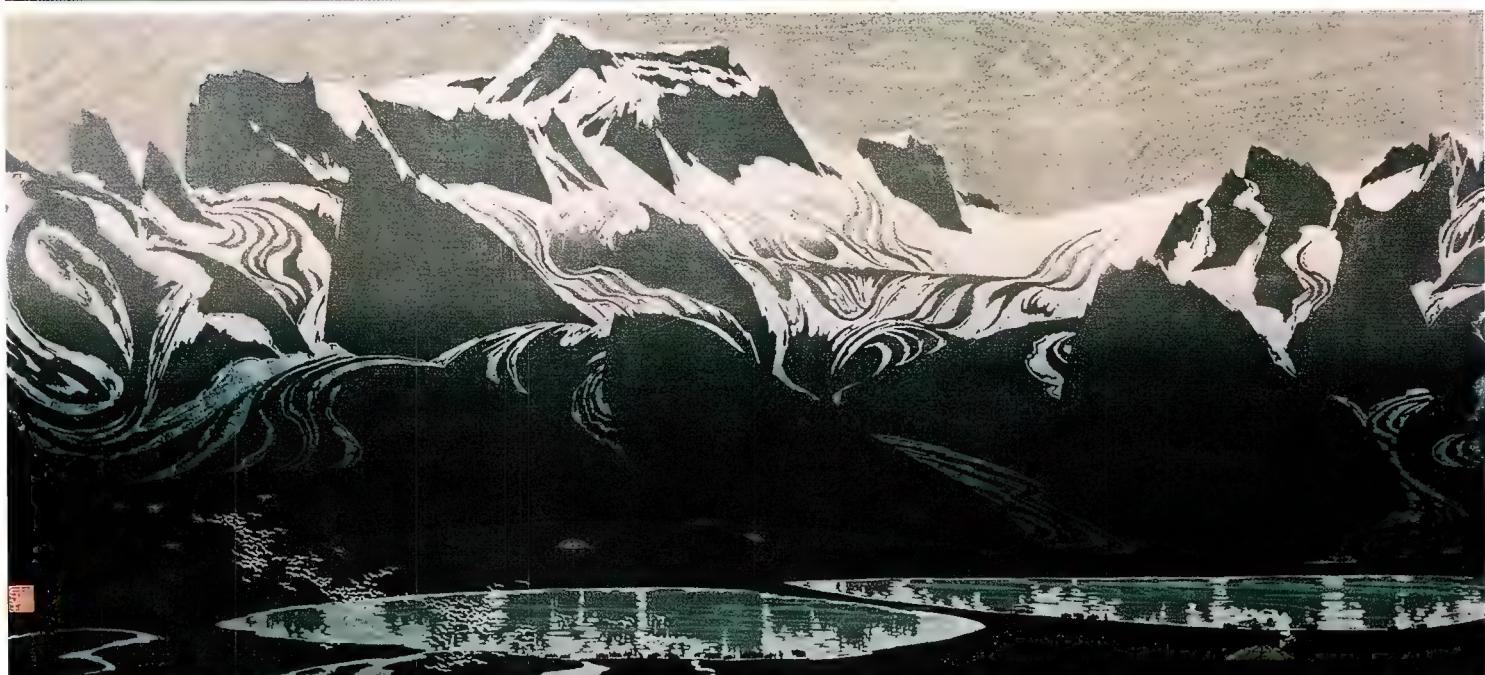
Xalung Temple, located 30 kilometres southeast of Xigazê, has a collection of outstanding Tibetan murals. In this fairly small temple, the secret chambers on both sides of the main hall house many murals, some of which were painted in the Central Asian style and are representative works of early Tibetan art. Though painted 900 years ago, they were still most impressive in both their composition and artistic technique. The different shades of green against a red background and the golden lines were still vivid despite centuries of weathering.

The 900-year-old town of Sa'gya is known as the "Second Dunhuang", as it boasts hundreds of thousands of scriptures — indeed, it has the largest collection of Buddhist scriptures in all of Tibet. We stopped at the town on our way from Xigazê to Tingri, just as the

sun was setting. Residences and temples were scattered on the slopes, the houses decorated with vertical red and white lines painted on blue and grey walls. Streets and lanes cut across each other haphazardly, turning the town into a huge labyrinth. Bits of broken walls here and there gave the place an air of age and desolation. Records show that during the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368), this was where deposed court officials were sent in exile. Zhao Xian, a deposed emperor of the Southern Song Dynasty, was sent to Sa'gya Temple, where he spent his last years in solitude.

A sketch of the Gartogla Mountains (1) ■ Northern Tibet covered in snow (2) ■ A famille rose woodblock print depicting the rosy clouds of Tibet (3) ■ This picture of lakes and mountains is also a woodblock print (4).

4



53



1

On the way from Sa'gya to Tingri we went over Gyacola Pass, situated at 5,220 metres above sea level. Thick clouds, however, prevented us from seeing Qomolangma Peak from this height. At about 6:00 in the evening, we checked in at a border post at Lulu. The next day, when we drove past the town of Tingri and came to another mountain pass, I looked at the altimeter and saw that we were 5,300 metres above sea level. We had a panoramic view of the snow-covered mountains that spread out for dozens of kilometres like a silvery dragon crouching on the roof of the world. Their loftiness and magnificence left no doubt that we were in the Himalayas.

The Himalaya Mountains cover a length of 2,500 kilometres, and have ten of the world's 14 mountain peaks that measure above 8,000 metres. We stopped at a piece of elevated flat land near a mountain pass, called Nyanyaxungla Terrace, which was left over from the glacial stage of the Pleistocene Era. Eight to ten kilometres wide and several dozen kilometres long, the terrace leads directly to Xixabangma Peak. A highway from the mountain pass runs through the terrace and into the Pongqu River Valley deep in the Himalaya Mountains.

As we were driving through the valley, we came to Nyalam County Town, located at 4,300 metres above sea level. It is in the centre of the main section of the Himalayas and the surrounding peaks are all over 6,000 metres high. As the Qomolangma, Xixabangma and Qowowuyang mountains are well above 8,000 metres but the valley is only 4,000 metres above sea level, the water from the Pongqu River drops down 4,000 metres, thus making the river's flow extremely turbulent. The river water cascades down into the valley like a rainbow hanging on the cliffs.

The 40-kilometre trip between Nyalam and Zham was brilliant, with the golden autumn leaves set off by pure white snow peaks, and the weather constantly changing between sunshine and dark clouds. As the mountains became gentler, there were more trees and vegetation and the sky seemed an incredible shade of blue. We realized that we had already crossed the Himalayas and we were now to the south of the mountain chain. Here the green forests were dotted with houses that had been built along the mountain slope. From an artist's point of view, I found Zham — at 2,300 metres above sea level — very similar to Yunnan, with little real Tibetan atmosphere. On the way back to Nyanyaxungla Terrace, we once again grew excited and took who knew how many more pictures of the Himalayan peaks.

Our Bus Breaks Down

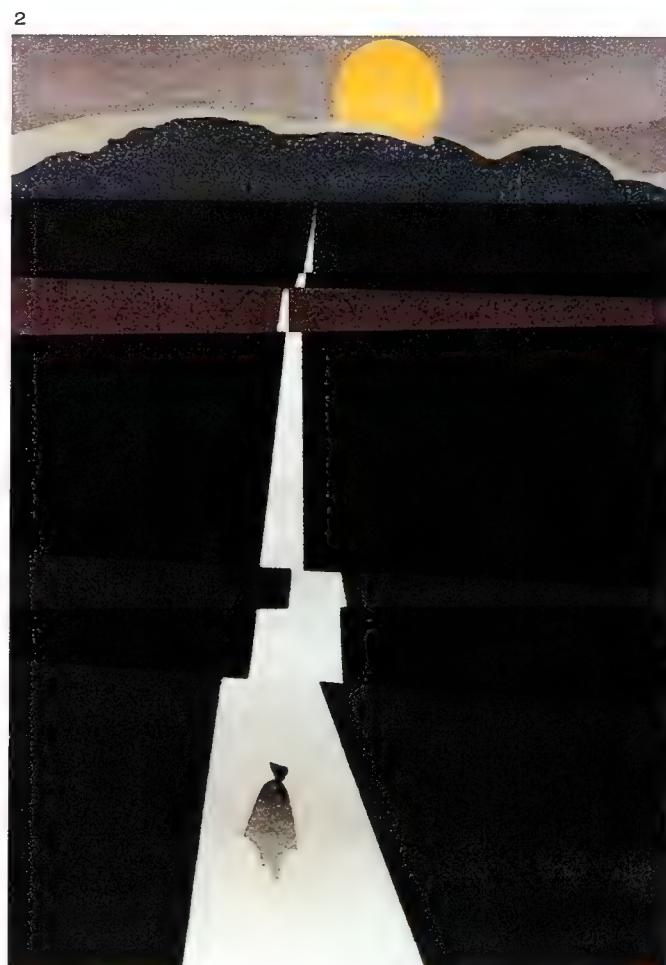
We spent that night at a border guard station at Guo, which turned out to be a most advantageous point from which to view Xixabangma Peak. We got up at 7:00 in the morning and found the gate of the station still firmly locked, so we walked along the encir-

cling wall and discovered a hole from where we could crawl out. The early morning air was extremely refreshing and the grassland sparkled with thin ice. With the sun shining from behind, Qomolangma Peak looked like a blue pyramid towering into the sky. The sun gradually rose and the ruins of ancient castles cast their shadows against the mountains in the distance, creating a scene of great depth.

The town of Tingri, which is 70 kilometres from Qomolangma, is like a gate leading to the peak. The stretch of road between Tingri and Rongbu Temple was particularly difficult, therefore we had to get rid of any belongings that were not absolutely essential so that we could travel light. Just then, six soldiers armed with guns caught up with us. They were also going to see Qomolangma and wanted to do some hunting on the way. We had hardly gone a kilometre down the road when our bus' oil tank was punctured by a pointed stone. Oil and fuel quickly leaked to the ground and the bus was immobilized. Disappointed and dejected, the only thing we could do was to have the bus towed back to Tingri by truck for repairs.

Despite this setback, two of my companions and I refused to give up and began walking towards Qomolangma. In more than four hours we managed to cover only about 10 kilometres. The more we walked, the higher the mountain became and the larger the peak loomed, though in proportion to the other peaks it seemed to grow smaller. To trek in such a wild and desolate place was perhaps not too sensible, but it was an indication of our enthusiasm and dedication.

At seven in the evening, we returned to Tingri. Somehow, without the benefit of welding and maintenance facilities, the driver had managed to seal the tank with tape and the bus was able to move again. Of course, there was no way we could attempt another trip to Rongbu Temple. We would be lucky if the bus would make it as far as the next county town, where it could be properly repaired.



2

After a brief rest at Xigazê, we continued on towards Gyangzê. As we pulled into town, we saw a magnificent castle on a mountain covered with yellow autumn leaves, Gyangzê's Dzong Fort. The white Kumbum Pagoda at the famous Baiju (Palcho) Monastery was completed in 1414 after ten years of construction. It houses more than a 100,000 Buddha statues, murals and sculptures, and its name Kumbum in fact means "a hundred thousand gods". Its unique architectural style makes it a rare and valuable structure among Tibetan pagodas.

That night, we stayed at the Nagarzê Border Guard Station. The next morning we started to climb up a mountain and suddenly came upon a lake called Yamzho Yumco. The tall snowy peaks were reflected in the lake's calm, green water, while black yaks and white

sheep grazed by the lakeside. The water changed colour with the sun and clouds, now turning a dark blue and now tinged with purple. Wild ducks flew low on the surface of the lake, sending up sprays of water. One member of our party, a hunting rifle in his hand, ran around trying to shoot at the ducks. However, being at an altitude of over 4,000 metres above sea level, he quickly began gasping for air and could no longer worry about the ducks. Though we had failed to see the sacred lake of Mapam Yumco in Ngari, we were somewhat compensated by running into Yamzho Yumco.

After crossing the Gartogla Mountain Pass, we entered the Yarlung Zangbo River Valley. When we returned to Lhasa, it began to drizzle and we were pretty sure it would be snowing up in the mountains.

We heard that a landslide at Bomi had cut off all transportation along the southern Sichuan-Tibet route, so we decided instead to take the northern Sichuan-Tibet route to Qamdo.

The Majestic Scenery of Northern Tibet

On October 12, we once again left Lhasa and began our tour of the Qangtang (Changtang), or the northern part of Tibet. A heavy snowfall had drastically changed the scenery we had seen when we first entered Tibet in late September. The mountains had now changed to white and the grass to yellow. Soaked with snow and rain, the land and rocks looked dark and heavy, relieved only by orange, vermilion or reddish-brown bushes.

Clouds drifted low over the white snow mountains and dark soil of the valleys. Once in a while, the sun would peek through the clouds and shed its light on the mountain slopes, grassland and tents, illuminating the whole area with patches of brightness. Yaks, white with snow, stood firmly on the snow-covered land like statues, refusing to budge. The cold and desolate landscape of northern Tibet held a strong attraction for me, and seemed somehow more Tibetan than other places we had visited, simpler and closer to nature.

4 Driving over the grassland, we saw almost no one for days except for an occasional Tibetan woman tending her yak and sheep. A frequent problem with travelling in this vast wilderness is that there are no hotels or restaurants anywhere. We ate only ice and snow with our ship biscuits, and at night slept in the bus, covering ourselves up with everything we had — though we were still incredibly cold. After all, we were in the land of ice and snow, at 4,000 metres above sea level.

In the quiet of night and under the silver moonlight, the howling of wolves and wild dogs sent cold shivers down our spines. Nonetheless, we felt ourselves blessed to be able to experience this unique moment in life.

Later, we began to travel at night so we could take pictures during the day. When we came across human settlements, we would stop at a residence, have a short rest and enjoy a cup of milk tea, a hearty meal and the warm family atmosphere.

One night in Sogxung County we again made our beds in the bus, however it was so unbearably cold that we decided to set off again as soon as day broke. While crossing a snow-covered mountain not far from the county town of Baqên, a layer of snow carried by the wind blanketed the land, almost completely obscuring the road. At

(Continued on page 93)

One of the artists' campsites en route to Tibet (1) ■ This famille rose woodblock print named "A Remote Place", expresses the solitude and beauty of the Tibetan plateau (2). ■ These coloured woodblock prints are entitled "The Wild Mountains" (3) and "The Holy Wall" (4).





Being one of the biggest toy I/E corporations in China, we have advanced technology and equipment plus years of experience in management and in designing our own products.

Our best-selling lines include: metal and plastic flexible toys (friction-type & clock-work toys, battery-operated toys, radio-control, voice-control and light-control electronic toys), stuffed animals, dolls, wooden toys, musical toys, inflatable toys, children's vehicles, toy parts, motors and more.

We welcome the opportunity to trade with business people from all over the world and to engage in the processing of supplied materials, manufacturing according to given designs or samples, and participating in joint ventures or other co-operative arrangements.



Shanghai Toys Import and Export Corporation

165 Pu An Road, Shanghai, China Tel: 3262640 Fax: 3112761, 3203353 Cable: "CHINATOYS" Shanghai Tlx: 33037 CN

GUANGZHOU ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS IMPORT & EXPORT CORPORATION



Guangzhou Animal By-Products Import & Export Corporation deals in exporting all kinds of men's, ladies' and children's leather shoes made of good quality materials, with fine workmanship and fashionable designs. To meet the different requirements of our customers, we are constantly updating shoes styles and improving the technological process. We also export various kinds of canvas shoes, sport shoes and slippers to America, Europe, the Middle East, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong and Macao.

Orders and other kinds of co-operation are much appreciated and welcome.



ADD : 4-9/F., No.2, SI YOU ER XIANG, SI YOU XIN ROAD,
GUANGZHOU, CHINA
TEL : 86-20-7752200 FAX : 86-20-7776658
CABLE : "APRODUCT" GUANGZHOU
TELEX : 44617 KAB CN POST CODE : 510080

Tianjin's Mazu Temple Fair

Past and Present

ARTICLE BY LI LULU & BAO XIU

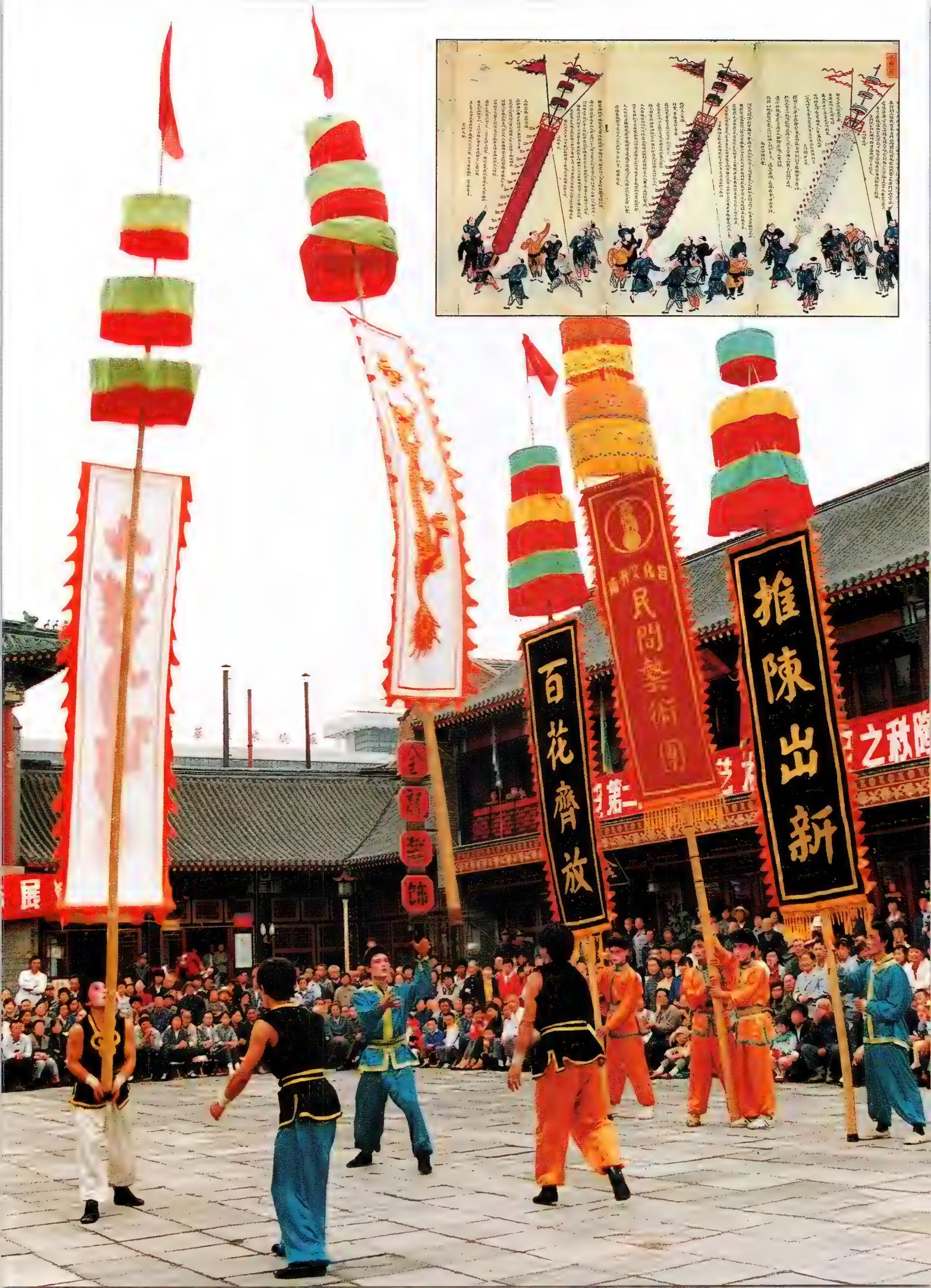
This page, top: The Imperial Sedan Chair Society was a specialized troupe who carried the statue of Mazu on a parade during the Qing Dynasty (by Li Lulu).



This page, bottom: The Imperial Sedan Chair Society of today looks much the same (by Cao Jinming).

Opposite page: The event called Flying Pennants Atop Poles, past and present (by Wang Kexin)







This picture portrays both acrobats and a stilt-walking troupe (by Li Lulu).

Mazu, also known as Tianhou (Heavenly Mother), was a real woman who was born in 960 in Fujian's Meizhou Bay, near present-day Meizhou Island. At an early age she began to exhibit a religious disposition, and was thus given secret teachings by a Taoist priest. Using her magical powers, she often helped those in distress, in particular sailors and fishermen, and when she died she became known as the Goddess of the Sea.

Mazu's main temple is located on Meizhou Island, where temple fairs are held in her honour every year. However, throughout China there are many other Mazu temples and Mazu temple fairs, the oldest such fair being held on Changdao Island in Shandong Province. The city of Tianjin, also on the coast, has its own Mazu Temple (called Tianhou Temple), and was once the location of the largest and grandest Mazu Temple Fair in all the land.

The History of Tianjin's Imperial Fair

After Emperor Kublai Khan (r. 1271-1294) of the Yuan Dynasty moved the capital to Beijing, the population of the city grew and it became necessary to import great quantities of grain from southern China. The cheapest way to transport the grain was by sea or by canal, but the Grand Canal had been silted up and had fallen into disuse during the Song Dynasty. The sea thus became the only transportation route, and as Tianjin was both on the coast and near the capital, it soon became a crucial port and transportation hub.

And yet the sea was full of dangers such as typhoons, billows and reefs. In order to avoid shipwrecks, people built larger ships and improved seafaring techniques, while at the same time seeking divine protection from the gods. Mazu, of course, was a natural choice, and before long Mazu temples were being built at ports, near wharfs and in fishing villages. As Tianjin was the largest port in the north, the city's Mazu Temple was the largest, and so were the temple fairs.

In the early years of the Qing Dynasty, Emperor Kangxi (r. 1662-1722) made a tour of Tianjin and planned a visit to the Mazu Temple. The local officials saw this as a good opportunity to please the emperor, and spent a great amount of silver to stage a variety of spectacular shows. As a result, they received high praise from the emperor, and afterwards the temple fair in Tianjin became known as the Imperial Fair.

On a later occasion, Emperor Qianlong (r. 1736-1795) stopped at Sanchakou Port in Tianjin on his way to tour the area south of the Yangtze River, and happened to see the temple fair. He too greatly enjoyed the entertainment, and his lavish praise brought yet greater fame to Tianjin's Tianhou Temple.

The two most important days for Mazu worship — and therefore for holding temple fairs — are her birthday (the 23rd day of the third lunar month) and the day of her ascension to Heaven (the ninth day of the ninth lunar month). Of the two, her birthday is the occasion of the grandest celebration, thus Tianjin's Imperial Fair was at its most spectacular on that date every year.

Festivities would last for several days, during which a statue of Mazu was carried solemnly on a parade about the city. The parade was accompanied by various folk performers, and when the entourage arrived at a specially prepared stage or received a calling card from an important person, it would immediately halt and the actors and actresses would perform a show on the spot. On that day Tianjin's Mazu Temple was filled with the deafening sounds of gongs and drums, mixed with the shouts and applauses of the spectators watching the various folk shows, which lasted from dawn till dusk.

Remarkable Paintings Keep Tradition Alive

After 1911, with the fall of the Qing Dynasty and the social turmoil that followed for many years after, the Imperial Fair in Tianjin fell into oblivion, and only scant written records remain of the event. Fortunately, however, Beijing's Chinese History Museum has a remarkable set of Qing-dynasty paintings which portray scenes from the Imperial Fair held in Tianjin's Mazu Temple a century ago. Included are 100 pictures of performances and spectacles put on during the fair, accompanied by detailed explanations. These vivid portraits contain a total of some 10,000 human figures and are an invaluable source of information for modern-day researchers.

Looking over the pictures and reading the explanations, I learned that at that time there were many so-called "Incense Societies" in Tianjin — locally organized groups of volunteer folk artists. Some were named after the profession of the members, such as "the Divine Joy Society of Fishermen", while others were named after the location, as in "the Stilt Society of the Hedong Great Temple".



Left: This is a new event created by young people, and is not found in the ancient pictures (by Shen Guangzhi).

Below: This acrobatic performance is called Saddle Jumping, and is put on by members of the present-day Stilt Society (by Wang Kexin).

Bottom: This interesting act is called Catching Butterflies, and includes both acrobatics and stilt-walking (by Zong Yongmou).





An ancient-style Lion Dance (top) and a Canopy Parade. Canopies back then were used in imperial processions as well as for protecting oneself from the sun, though their purpose was more decorative than practical (both by Li Lulu).

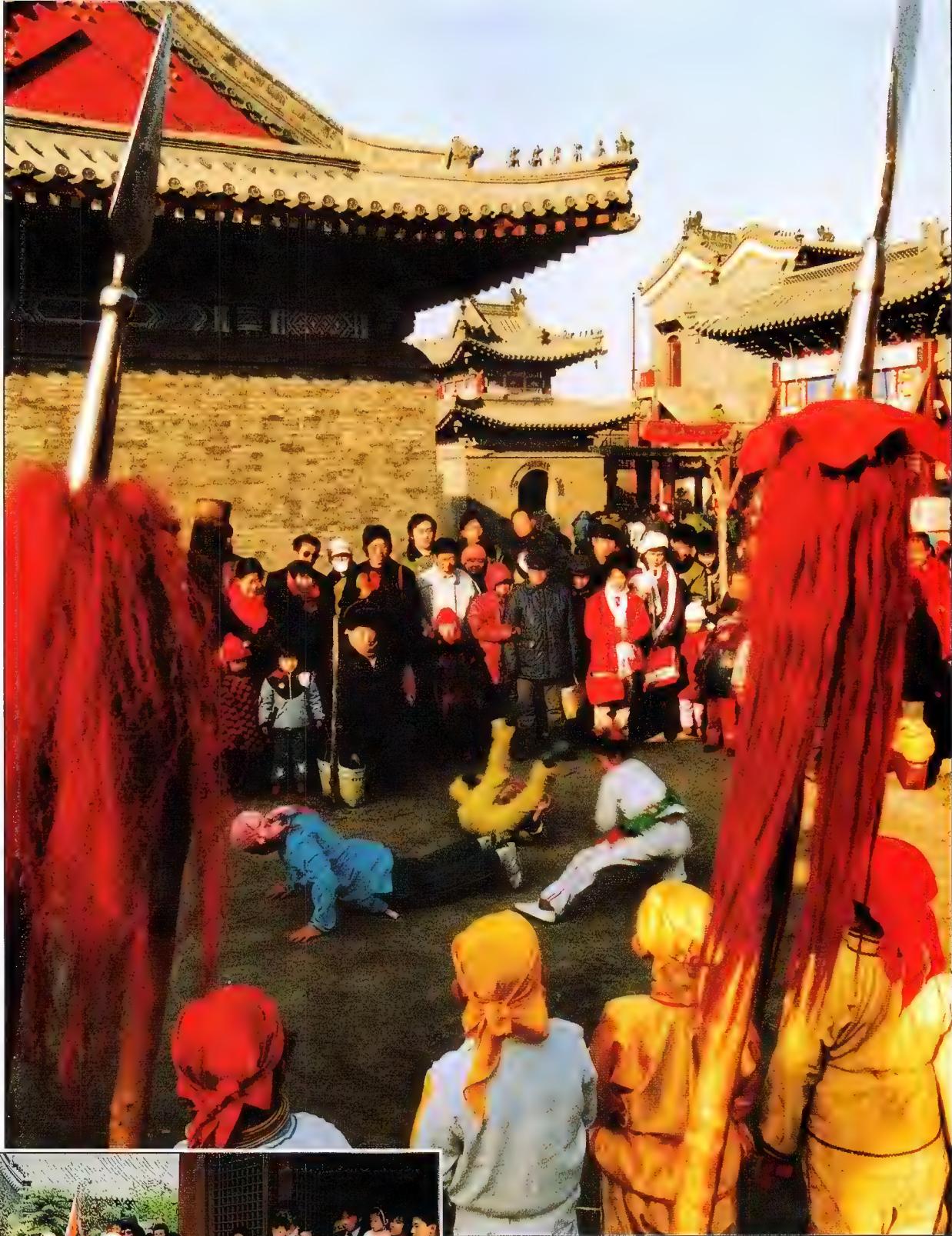
In Tianjin, by the late Qing Dynasty there were about 100 such societies. On the occasion of an Imperial Fair, folk artists would flock to the Mazu Temple from all directions, occupy a plot of land and then put on their best shows. Apart from this type of stationary show, there was another type dubbed "the Walking Fair", in which participants performed as they toured the area on foot. Walking Fairs were subdivided into Civil Fairs and Military Fairs.

The picture explanations point out that "the Military Fairs put on variety shows without singing", while the Civil Fairs attracted an audience with opera singing. The Military Fairs featured acrobatic tricks and daring feats of skill, thus were a greatly popular form of entertainment. Acts included Flying Pennants Atop Poles, the Lion Dance, the Pole-Climbing Event, Walking on Stilts, the Canopy Parade, the Pagoda and Tripod Parade, the Flower Show, the Lantern and Fan Show, the Lantern Parade, the Yangko Dance and many more. The pictures show clearly each colourful performance, along with the costumes worn back then and the various props and objects used.

Although the historical scrolls offer vivid images of the Imperial Fair, they cannot compare with seeing the real thing. Therefore, in recent years the area at Sanchakou Port, where Emperor Qianlong once watched the fair from his boat, was designated an area of historical and cultural importance, and at its centre is Mazu Temple. The long-neglected Imperial Fair has been revived, and every year, on Mazu's birthday and the day of her ascension to Heaven, the temple comes alive with the pomp and pageantry of this colourful event.

Due to the gap of several generations the traditional link of imparting skills directly from master to disciple is missing, but the pictures of the Imperial Fair provide modern folk artists with sufficient information to learn the ancient feats. Indeed, modern performers not only include acts revived from a century ago, but have also created new spectacles. This would never have been possible were it not for the artisans who recorded for posterity this unique form of entertainment — so unique and spectacular that the emperor himself came specially to watch.

Translated by Gu Weizhou



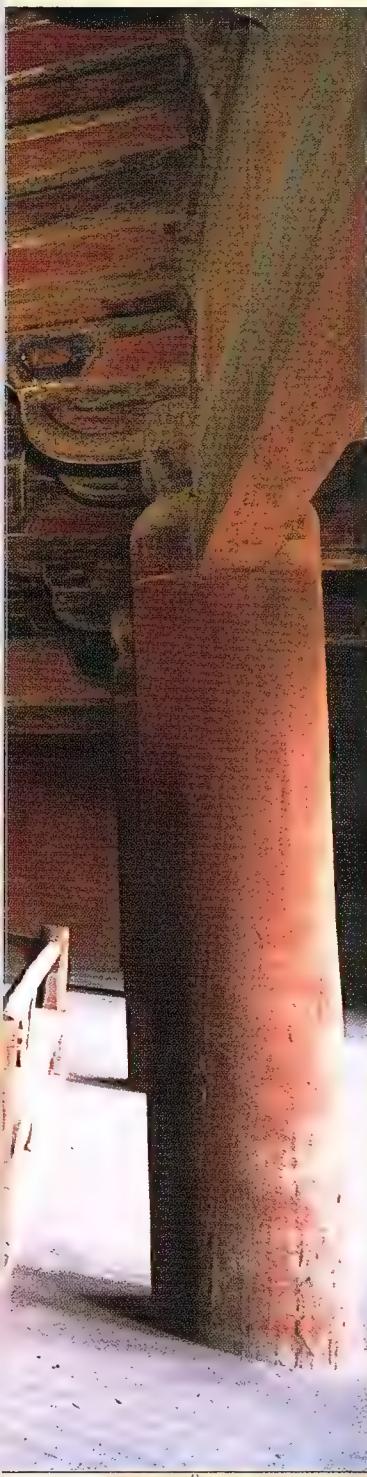
Top: Kung fu performances are a test of strength and skill (by Zhang Shude).

Above: The Tea-Drinking Performance shows how peddlars used to serve tea during the Qing Dynasty (by Wang Kexin).

Right: The Imperial Fair of today includes many daring feats such as fire-breathing (by Wang Kexin).



This Guanyin statue has 10 small Guanyin heads on top of its own head, so is known as the Eleven-Faced Guanyin (by Wang Zhicheng).



Dule Temple, built in the Tang Dynasty and rebuilt in the Liao, was a favourite Buddhist temple of the Liao-dynasty imperial family (by Wang Miao).

The Rare Buddhist Art of Dule Temple

TEXT BY LI ZHANLUN



Dule Temple is located north of Tianjin's urban district in the small county town of Jixian, a three-hour train ride from Tianjin. According to historical records, the temple was first built in the Tang Dynasty (618-907) and then rebuilt in the Liao Dynasty (916-1125). Taking the year of its reconstruction as its founding date, the temple is now 1,009 years old.

I saw the temple gate at the far end of an ancient-style street. On the lintel of the gate hung a large eye-catching board with the inscription "Dule Temple", said to be written by the notorious prime minister Yan Song of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). I wondered if Yan Song himself had ever been here during his lifetime.

After entering the gate I went straight to Guanyin Hall. Inside the hall was a 16-metre-high statue of the Goddess of Mercy, Guanyin, the largest extant clay statue in China. The statue stood in the centre of the hall, towering upward through the second and third storeys until it reached the octagonal caisson ceiling. I looked up at the statue's head but could not see the face clearly in the hall's dim light. The statue looked very mysterious. After a while, as my eyes gradually became accustomed to the light, I could see that the goddess' eyes were turned downward. She was smiling slightly, and her body was inclined somewhat forward, giving her a kind

and intimate demeanour, as if she were right here in the world of humans.

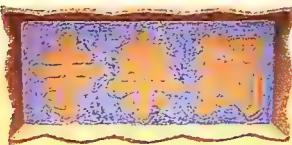
In order to show Guanyin's immense supernatural powers, the sculptors had added ten small Guanyin heads to the top of the statue's head, therefore this statue is known as the Eleven-Faced Guanyin. According to the Esoteric Sect of Buddhism, which began to gain popularity in China during the Tang Dynasty, Guanyin has the power to transform herself into 33 different incarnations and save humans from 13 different types of disasters. The conception of this Eleven-Faced Guanyin statue is based on this belief. Being built during the Tang Dynasty, this statue and the two Bodhisattva statues beside it are excellent examples of sculpture from that time.

Guanyin Hall is a three-storey wooden structure. Between its top and bottom eaves there is a storey formed by hanging eaves and flat balustrades, which gives it the appearance of having only two-storeys. The sole purpose of this style

of construction was to protect the Guanyin statue within. During the Ming and Qing dynasties, the town of Jixian was destroyed three times by war. Each time war came the townspeople rushed to protect Dule Temple, rather than remaining to safeguard their own homes. This is how the temple managed to escape destruction, and how the Guanyin statue inside has survived to this day.



One feels very small indeed standing before this colossal Guanyin statue (by Wang Miao).



Three of the walls in the lower part of the hall are covered with Buddhist murals. Both sides of the door in the fourth wall are painted with portraits of Ming-dynasty guardians, who have glaring eyes, three heads, six arms and brandish iron rods. Although the exact date of the murals is uncertain, we know from the inscriptions written on them that they are ancient murals that were repainted in the Ming Dynasty.

The painting technique used for these murals is the traditional method of first sketching an outline and then applying a flat coat of paint. The composition is full and dynamic, and the lines fluent. There is a skilful use of perspective, so that each painting achieves a three-dimensional effect. The figures are so exquisitely portrayed that not only are their proportions perfectly delineated, but also their different features, postures and characters are brought out in the minutest detail.

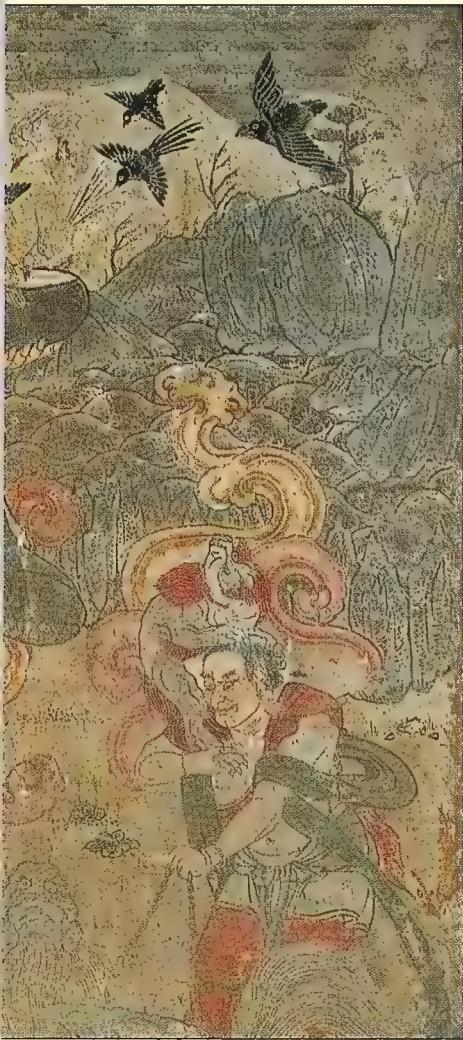
As I stood in the hall gazing at these paintings, I noticed that the figures of arhats (enlightened beings) dominated the pictures, and the doners beside the arhats were much smaller in size. The murals had obviously inherited the tradition of Buddhist sculpture, where the principal figures are big while the subordinate figures are small.

The 16 arhats depicted in the temple were all followers of Sakyamuni, the founder of Buddhism. At the order of their master, these arhats did not go to Nirvana but remained as guardians to relieve the suffering of sentient beings. These 16 arhats were highly respected in the Tang Dynasty and Five Dynasties period, with two more being added during the later Song Dynasty. Buddhism was at its height in China during that time, and Dule Temple is a fitting monument to that ancient religion.

Translated by Xiong Zhenru

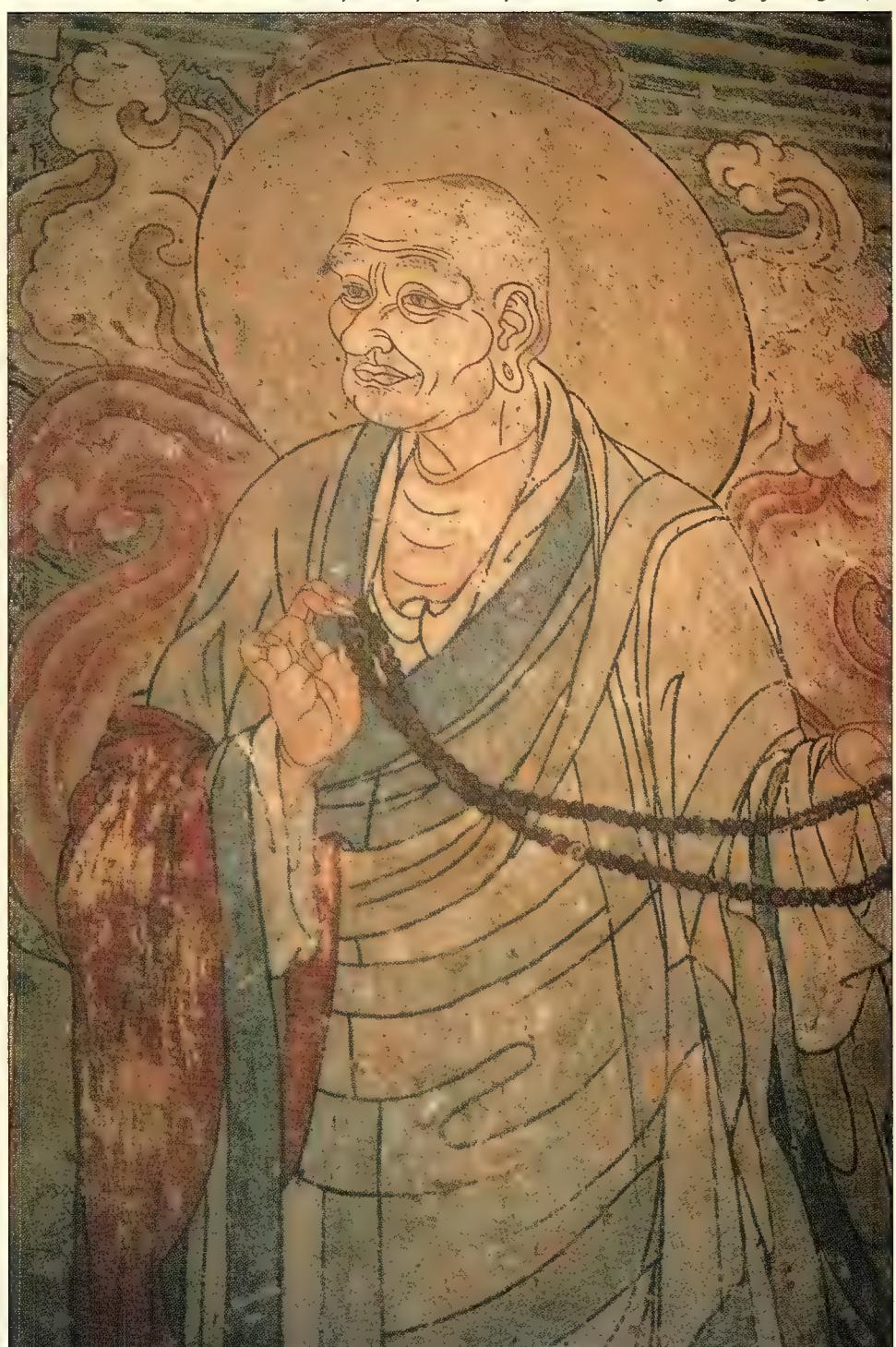


An arhat is the central figure in this mural, while to his right are the much smaller figures of people who donated money to the temple, and to his left is another arhat (by Wang Zhicheng).



The lower part of the walls in Guanyin Hall are decorated with Buddhist murals (by Wang Wenbo).

The facial expression of this arhat is very moving (by Wang Miao).



SHANGHAI FOODSTUFFS



JUMBO

Prawn Crackers

- Shanghai Top Quality Products
- Fresh, fragrant and crisp

Inquires are welcome



Malin



Soy Sauce & Thick Soy Sauce

- Top-quality raw materials
- Scientific manufacturing processing
- Delicious & nutritious

Specifications:

750 grams x 24 bottle/box
250 grams x 24 bottle/box
200 grams x 48 bottle/box
150 grams x 48 bottle/box



Shanghai Foodstuffs Import & Export Corporation

上海食品進出口公司

Add: 26 Zhongshan Road (E.1), Shanghai, China

Tel: 3216233 Tlx: 33070 FOODS CN Fax: 021-3291730

SHANGHAI CHEMICALS IMP. & EXP. CORP. (SCHECO)
A Competitive Supplier of Chemicals

Our corporation is an experienced enterprise with a history of over 40 years in the foreign chemicals trade. Known for our good reputation and excellent service, we produce some 1,000 products for export divided into about 10 categories. Our annual turnover is US\$ 3 billion. At the end of 1992, SCHECO implemented a group managerial system which has helped to further promote the development of our business.

Department	Business Scope	Fax No.
No. 1 Branch	"Everbright" pigments and pesticides	321 8962
No.2 Branch	"Dycos" dyestuffs and auxiliary products	323 2770
No.3 Branch	Inorganic chemicals	329 1955
No.4 Branch	Various intermediates	329 0934
No.5 Branch	Import of petrochemicals and other chemical products	321 1943
SCHECO PUDONG CORP. (Wholly-owned)	Organic chemicals, rubber & finished rubber products, "Dycos" paint & printing ink, aromatic chemicals, pharmaceuticals & their intermediates, plastics & plastic products, food additives, etc.	887 3765

In addition, all branches of our corporation handle light industrial goods, clothes and hardware.



44) CHEMICALS IMP. & EXP. CORP.

For 50th Anniversary, 1985-1986
Centennial Program, June, 1986, Page 100-101



A procession of "lantern boats" passes down Fengxi Street during the Lantern Festival in Nianbadu.



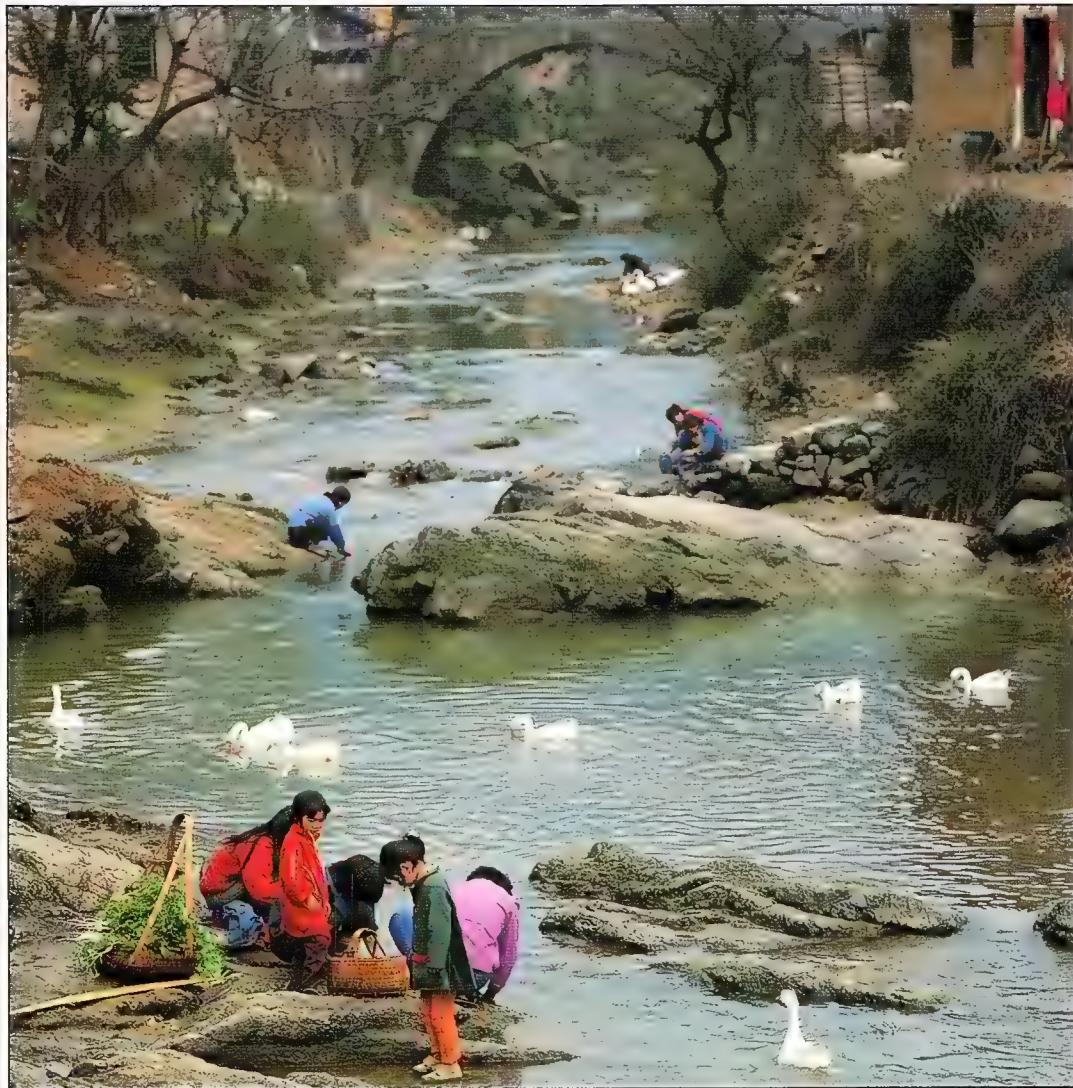
Ancient buildings combining the architectural styles of different regions make up the lovely town of Nianbadu.



Nianbadu

A 900-Year-Old Town Bordering Three Provinces

PHOTOS & TEXT BY REN JING



Villagers often wash their vegetables and clothing in the rippling waters of Fengxi Creek.





Walking in ancient alleyways, one's mind is
inevitably taken back to days of old.



On the border of Zhejiang, Fujian and Jiangxi provinces and set deep in the Xianxia Mountain Range, Nianbadu still looks much as it did centuries ago (by Ren Jing & Zhou Zhihao).



People of all ages use portable stoves to keep warm in winter.





Nianbadu is a small old town in the Xianxia Mountain Range on the border of three provinces — Zhejiang, Fujian and Jiangxi — and is under the administration of Jiangshan City. Not exactly the 28th capital as the Chinese name implies, it was rather the seat of a local government. It became the 28th *du* (small administrative unit) out of a total of 44 *du* designated in Jiangshan City by the Northern Song Dynasty in 1071. The place has been called Nianbadu ever since — for more than 900 years.

Nianbadu was an untravelled and inaccessible spot in the old days. Its history can be traced to the end of the Tang Dynasty (618-907), when Huang Chao, leader of a peasant rebellion, opened up a path here into the Xianxia Mountains. In later dynasties it became a militarily strategic location, and was garrisoned by government troops.

The importance of Nianbadu increased during the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) dynasties, when most of its existing architecture was built. Surrounded by mountain ranges on all sides, Nianbadu was guarded by Fengling Pass to the south on the Zhejiang-Fujian route, by Xianxia Pass in the north, where a small garrison could ward off attacks by thousands of men, and to the east and west by two other passes. On account of its easily defensible position, few wars were actually fought here. This explains in large measure why so many ancient structures have been preserved to this day.

Keeping Warm with a Portable Stove

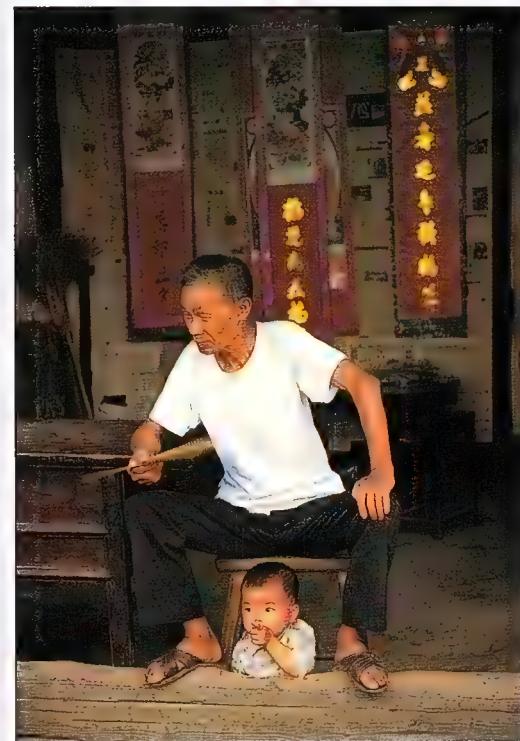
When I first arrived in Nianbadu, the streets were decorated with flags, ribbons, flowers and lanterns. The town was preparing for the Lantern Festival as part of the Lunar New Year festivities. I took a solitary stroll along a street running parallel to Fengxi Creek, which was lined by two-storey general goods stores and local workshops built of wood. My view was somewhat obstructed by the horsehead-shaped gables that mingled with each other above my head. There were so many all I could see of the sky was a narrow blue band.

Ancient signboards carved with the Chinese characters “jiu” and “cha” advertised wine and tea shops. In front of some small shops were stands selling cigarettes, sweetmeats, bean products and groceries. It was obvious that the shops were not doing very brisk trade, as they once did during the town’s heyday. I saw people sitting or standing in front of their houses — both the elderly and the young — warming their hands on cinder stoves set in bamboo baskets. It appeared that the local people had no need for gloves.

The silence which reigned in the cobblestone streets was suddenly broken by the sound of fireworks and the beating of gongs and drums. The children ran about from one end of the narrow street to another to welcome the arrival of a troupe of lantern dancers. The first float was made to resemble a boat being rowed by an elderly fisherman. In front of and behind the



These ancient water tilt-hammers are still used for hulling rice (by Ren Jing & Zhou Zhihao).



Grandpa and grandson enjoy the fresh air and street scenes as they sit on the raised threshold of their house (by Ren Jing & Zhou Zhihao).





The wood carvings on the queti (horizontal part of the bracket) in Wenchang Pavilion are exceptional works of art.



On the ceiling of Wenchang Pavilion are paintings from Chinese history and literature, as well as landscape paintings and flower and bird paintings done by local artists.



With its dramatically upturned eaves, the architecture of Wenchang Pavilion at the Confucius Temple is unique.





boat were people dressed as fish, shrimp, turtles and shellfish, representing a rich catch. The performers walked six steps forward and two steps backward and slowly made their way around town, en route to visiting every nook and cranny.

Eclectic Architecture

Due to topographical reasons, the ancient buildings in Nianbadu were built in clusters, and eclectically combine the architectural styles of structures in Zhejiang, Anhui and Jiangxi, together with those of the Hakka, an ethnic group who inhabit the northern part of Fujian Province. I especially admired the ancient and graceful horsehead gables and the carvings on the arched gateways.

The outer walls of the residential buildings were made of grey brick. Below the eaves and at the foot of the walls were white plastered lines about 40-50 centimetres wide. The roofs of the houses were covered with darkish green tiles, and the houses themselves were shades of black, white and grey. Above the door of each building was a projecting awning made of brick, a characteristic feature of houses in Anhui and Zhejiang. However, the architects of Nianbadu took it one step further by adding beautiful wood carvings to all the beams, pillars, *queti* (the horizontal part of the bracket) and hanging pillars. The door awning of a typical residential building in Nianbadu forms its own architectural unit, consisting of four pillars, three gates and two storeys. Apart from the door awnings, the door and window decorations in Nianbadu are equally unique, as each door leaf or window design is different from the rest.

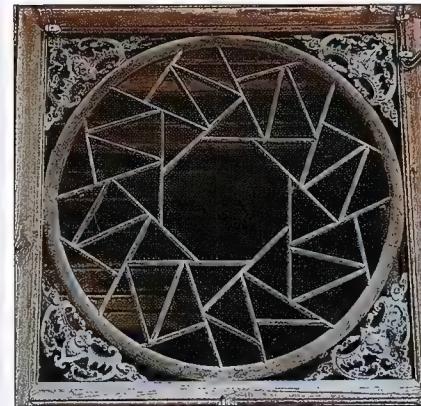
Nianbadu has a wide variety of coloured paintings in its halls and temples, with the most representative of these found in the Confucius Temple. Another interesting feature of this temple is that its main hall has *xieshan*, or nine-ridged double slanting eaves, which are upturned on four sides at an unusually steep angle. All of the beams, rafters, ceilings, balustrades and the lower portion of the inside walls of this two-storey temple are painted with landscapes, scenes from Chinese literature and different auspicious animals. All of these paintings were exquisitely executed by local craftsmen.

Apart from seeing the ancient architecture of Nianbadu, there are other sights worth visiting as well. Around the ancient town are mountain peaks and bridges offering scenic views. There is the one-time hunting ground of Zheng Chenggong (Koxinga), — the national hero who drove out the Dutch invaders that attempted to occupy Taiwan in 1662 — located on top of a mountain which Zheng frequented during his childhood. The famed Chinese traveller Xu Xiake (1586-1641) found Nianbadu so interesting that he visited it three times. Thus, the natural scenery around Nianbadu should definitely be included in the itinerary of any modern tourist, as it is just as beautiful now as it was back in Xu Xiake's time.

The eight trigrams often seen on lintels here are probably meant to ward off evil (by Ren Jing & Zhou Zhihao).



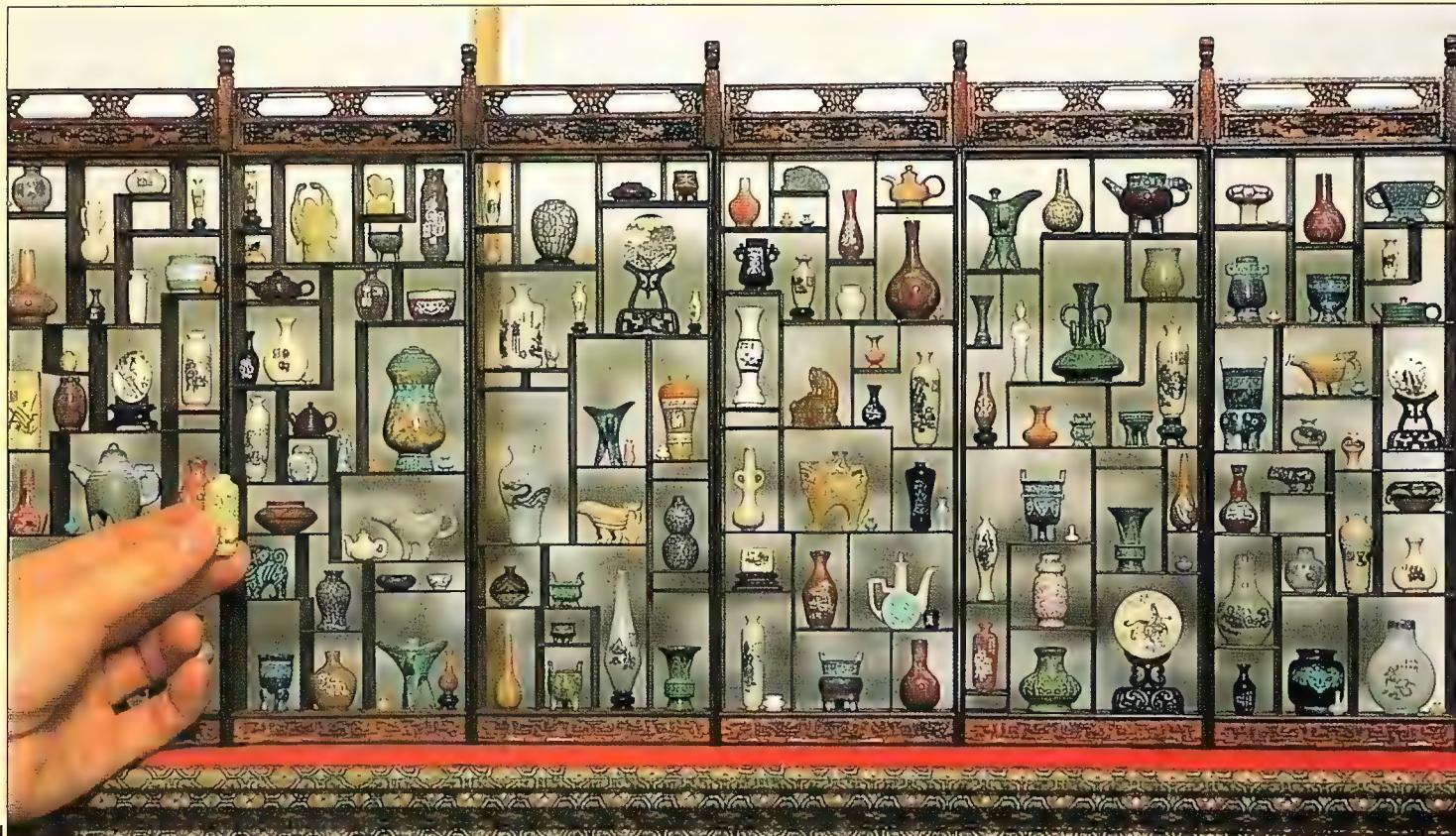
All of the carved doors and windows in Nianbadu differ from each other in design (by Ren Jing & Zhou Zhihao). ▶▶



The beautiful carvings of many of Nianbadu's ancient houses are still perfectly intact (by Ren Jing & Zhou Zhihao).

Translated by He Fei





Exquisite Miniature Works of Art

— Mini-Carver Zhou Changxing and His Daughter

TEXT BY SHI BAO XIU

The city of Shanghai is the home of a father and daughter sur-
named Zhou, who are famed for their superb mini-carving skills. Using a special knife, they are able to carve tiny objects out of stone, ivory, wood or bamboo, as well as engrave minute Chinese characters that can only be seen with a magnifying glass — both traditional skills that have developed in China over many centuries.

The father, Zhou Changxing, is in his early sixties and has been engaged in mini-carving for more than 50 years. He carves on bamboo, wood, stone and ivory, as well as stainless steel and plexiglass. The more he carves, the more skilful he becomes.

These ingeniously-carved objects by Zhou Changxing are made of jade, stone and ivory (1, by Chan Yat Nin). ■ The lid of this stone teapot Zhou carved is so closely fitted that if the air is sucked out, you can lift the teapot by its lid (2, by Chan Yat Nin). ■ These teapots are made from various types of stone (3, by Chan Yat Nin). ■ This miniature set of ancient-style furniture and vases are so small they could fit in one's palm (4, by Chan Yat Nin). ■ A carved stone teapot with a pumpkin lid and a claw-shaped teapot (5, by Tang Zaiqing) ■ A mini-shelf for displaying miniature works of art (6, by Tang Zaiqing) ■ Extraordinary patience and skill are needed to carve such minuscule objects (7, by Chan Yat Nin).



4

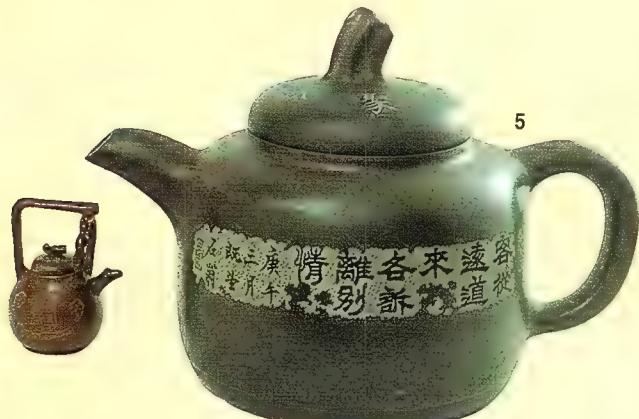
On a piece of ivory the size of a matchbox, Zhou Changxing made a miniature carving of the magnificent "Epang Palace" built by China's first emperor Shihuang. Each tiny, individual chamber and pavilion is meticulously carved. Even more remarkable is that in one corner he has carved the full text of a 500-odd character essay entitled "Epang Palace" written by Du Mu, a Tang-dynasty poet.

His unique carving skills can turn a piece of jade as small as a sparrow's egg into a flower plate or a water jug. In his hands a stone as big as a grain of maize can be turned into a mini-teapot, so small seven or eight of them could be lined up on one finger. The teapots come complete with spouts and lids, and are hollow inside. Fill them with water, and they can be used to pour out a thread of liquid into a matching set of even tinier teacups. The teapots vary in shape: Some are square, some round, and some are shaped like a pumpkin.

The most outstanding work he has done to date is a stone teapot about half the size of a pea, which is made to resemble a tree root sculpture. Only through a magnifying glass can one really appreciate the extraordinary craftsmanship involved. The entwined tree trunk doubles as the spout, while inside the cracked and peeled-off bark of the "tree", he has carved a water channel just six millimeters in diameter. It is quite possible that this is the smallest teapot in the world.



6



5



7

Zhou Changxing was born in Shengxian County in Zhejiang Province, a place rich in bamboo. Bamboo weaving and carving are two traditional handicrafts of this region, and growing up in such an environment meant that Zhou developed an interest in carving at an early age. As a youngster he would often carve animals, birds, flowers and trees on bamboo, as well as practise his calligraphy through carving. Now he is at the height of his profession and specializes in

mini-stone teapot carving. He and his students often go out to the fields to look for top-quality stone for carving — rain or shine.

Having been influenced and taught by her father, Zhou Liju is as devoted to stone-carving as he is, and has perfected the technique of carving miniature works of calligraphy. One of her bigger projects was carving the full text of the famous Chinese classic novel, *A Dream of Red Mansions*, which consists of more than 800,000 characters, on chops of various sizes. The smallest character is no more than 0.5 square millimetres, one thirtieth the size of a grain of rice. The amount of stone needed for carving the entire text measures less than one square metre.

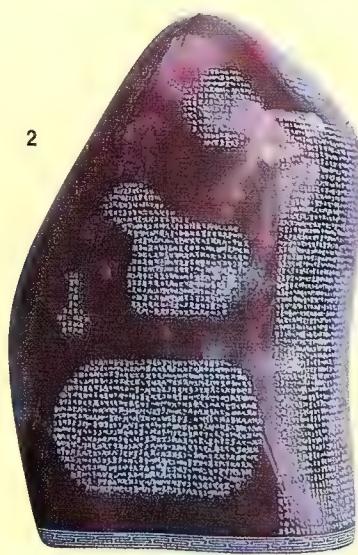
Miss Zhou uses traditional complex characters in official script for the text itself, and *xiaozhuan*, or seal characters, for the titles of each chapter. She carves without the use of a magnifier, making each stroke as slender as a strand of hair. In addition, Miss Zhou cleverly took advantage of the different shapes of the stones so that when put together, they form an attractive arrangement of various sizes.

Miss Zhou also once did a mini-carving of 100 poems extracted from *A Dream of Red Mansions*. So extraordinary were they that an American of Chinese descent wanted to buy the entire series for US\$100,000, but Miss Zhou politely declined the offer, preferring that they remain in her homeland. C

Translated by Anne Yan



1



2



3



4

Zhou Liju selects only the best quality stones for her mini-carving (1, by Tang Zaiqing). Besides precisely carving each character, Zhou Liju also pays close attention to the composition and layout of the text on each stone (2, by Tang Zaiqing). While inheriting superb skills from her father, Zhou Liju has also blazed a new trail by mini-carving the full text of *A Dream of Red Mansions*, 800,000 characters altogether (3, by Tang Zaiqing). One hundred poems from *A Dream of Red Mansions* are carved on these chops (4, by Tang Zaiqing).

The Flower Street Festival of the Dai

PHOTOS & TEXT
BY LI PING

It was early in the morning of the 13th day of the first lunar month, and the Dai girls living in Mosha and Gasa in the Xinping Yi and Dai Autonomous County in central Yunnan Province were busy preparing for the Flower Street Festival, a traditional annual festival of the Dai nationality. This day is also known as "Beauty Contest Day", as all the unmarried girls dress up in their very best clothes and jewellery and parade through the streets.

Before departing for the Flower Street Festival, the girls in all the villages had got up immediately after cockcrow, hastened to the riverside to bathe in the river and then returned home to dress. They put on their traditional costumes inlaid with silver, did their hair in buns, put bamboo hats on their heads and tied to their waists small bamboo baskets filled with fragrant glutinous rice, dried eel, preserved duck eggs and pork.

Then, in their colourful attire, the girls hurried to the appointed meeting place, where they organized themselves into groups according to village and made their way to Mosha's main street.

Although the crowds of people — consisting of various nationalities — were clad in their most festive outfits and were eye-catching indeed, the focus of attention was on the Dai girls who came to take part in the beauty contest. They promenaded down the street, the silver ornaments on their clothes producing a pleasant jingling sound as they moved. With their easy grace and beautiful clothes, they looked just like blooming flowers, which is why the festival is known as "Flower Street".

During the first part of the festival, the girls vied with each other to see who had the finest clothes, jewellery, embroidery and demeanour. The winner of this informal contest is decided by how many young men show an interest in them: The girl with the most admirers will bring great honour to her village and thus rank it as the best village in the area. If a young man should find the girl of his dreams among the contestants, and the girl has a liking for him too, they will make eye contact and then quietly leave to sit under a tree by a stream and talk. If the conversation is congenial, the girl will untie the small bamboo basket from her waist, take out the food and eat it with him. Thus, the festival provides an ideal opportunity for young people to meet and possibly find a partner, all in an atmosphere of fun and gaiety.

Dai girls help one another to dress as beautifully as possible so as to win admiration from the onlookers and thus gain honour for their village.



These girls from Manle Village in Mosha Township are on their way to take part in the Flower Street Festival.



Contestants dressed in the same outfits pose for a picture at the Flower Street Festival.

By nightfall, a stand had been set up on the main street where spectators could watch the song-and-dance performances and athletic competitions. Apart from the Dai, the performers included "friendship visitors" — people of other nationalities such as the Yi, Miao, Hani, Lahu and Han. The sound of singing mingled with the crackling of firecrackers and the shouts of peddlars hawking special Dai food. Everywhere I looked people were singing and dancing, and brilliant fireworks were flashing across the night sky. Films and video tapes were shown the whole night through to entertain the throngs of people that filled the square. At the height of the festival, the Dai girls came into the street and presented the guests with bowls of rice they had stored in the small bamboo containers.

There is a legend about the Flower Street Festival, which goes like this: Long, long ago there was a vicious dragon living in the Mosha River. On the 13th day of the first lunar month of every year he would emerge from the river to ask the Dai people in Mosha to slaughter 100 pigs and 100 oxen for him to eat. At the same time, he also forced the villagers to send their most beautiful girl to be his wife. If the villagers refused his orders, he would start to stir up trouble and cause storms to come and inundate the fields.

In the village there was a young man called Yan Long, who, unable to tolerate the dragon's wicked behaviour any longer, went to the beach at Fenniu Pier, tricked the ferocious creature and killed him. When the villagers learned of the news, they came with their gongs and drums and sang and danced to congratulate the young man. The Dai girls put on their best clothes and gathered at the beach at Fenniu Pier to show their gratitude to the young man, and the young man chose one of the girls as his bride. From that time on, the Dai people have celebrated the day the young hero killed the vicious dragon and saved the village by putting on this festive show.

Translated by Xiong Zhenru



The contestants from Mosha carefully observe the girls from other villages. As the saying goes, "Know your opponents and know yourself, and you can fight a hundred battles with no danger of defeat."



The contestants from different villages are very nervous before the final results are announced.



Building Tangerine Towers to Imperial Concubine Plum



Starting out in Fujian's coastal city of Putian and driving south for four kilometres, I came to a stone bridge that crossed a stream. This is a renowned and ancient bridge called Sandaininghai. Beside the stream is a huge rock carved with four Chinese characters which read "the Home Village of Imperial Concubine Plum".

The village referred to is Jiangdong Village, located just next to the stream. Behind this village there is a building named Pukou Palace, also known as the Palace of Imperial Concubine Plum. First built some 1,000 years ago, the palace was rebuilt during the reign of Emperor Wanli (1573-1620) of the Ming Dynasty and later renovated several times.

According to local custom, starting from the third day of the first lunar month of every year, villagers in Jiangdong begin building six-metre-high tangerine towers in front of the statue of Concubine Plum in the main hall of the palace as a form of worship.

As their name indicates, these towers are indeed made of fresh tangerines. The diameter at the bottom of each tower is about 40 centimetres and the outer ring at the bottom is made of 16 tangerines. Each layer of tangerines is separated by octagonal wooden boards. The tower gets smaller and smaller as it goes up, with the pinnacle consisting of just four tangerines.

To keep each layer of tangerines well balanced, one important factor is to select tangerines of the same size. The most eye-catching towers in the village are those six metres high and made of 640 tangerines.



3



4

Tangerine towers are a unique product of this village (1). ■ These meticulously selected tangerines are all exactly the same size (2). ■ A huge rock carved with the words "the Home Village of Imperial Concubine Plum" stands by a stream, and not far away is Jiangdong Village (3). ■ Piles of tangerines are offered to the statue of Concubine Plum in the main hall of Pukou Palace (4).

But who was Concubine Plum, and why should villagers in Jiangdong worship her?

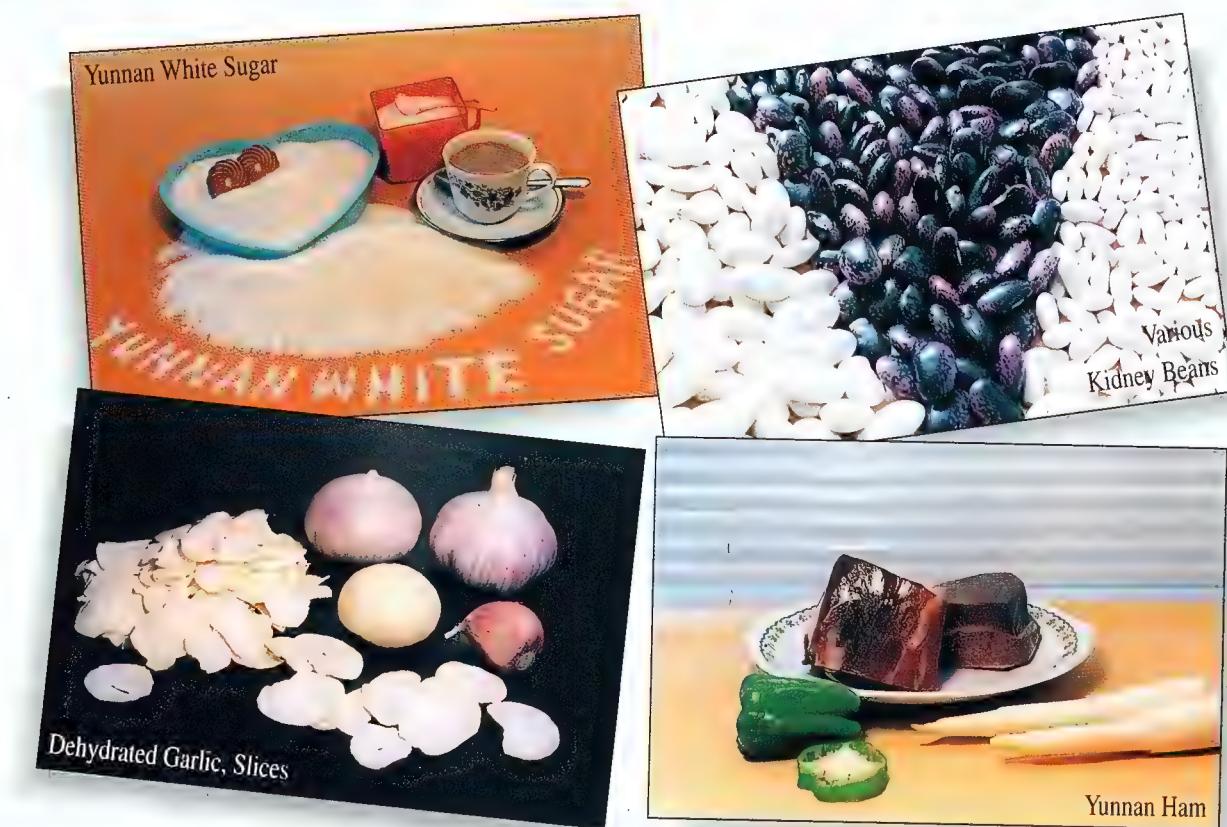
Concubine Plum was a native of Jiangdong Village named Jiang Caiping. Her father, grandfather and great-grandfather were all doctors. She was both beautiful and talented: By the age of nine she was able to recite poems from the classic *Book of Songs*. One day when she was tending her ducks on a beach she was spotted by a eunuch named Gao Lishi, who had been sent by the emperor to search for beautiful women to be imperial concubines. She was immediately taken to the imperial palace in Chang'an (present-day Xi'an), the capital at that time.

Emperor Xianzong (r. 712-756) of the Tang Dynasty was very fond of her and greatly admired her beauty and intelligence, therefore he bestowed on her the title of imperial concubine. She had a particular liking for plum flowers, thus the emperor had many plum trees planted around her palace. When they were in full bloom, she would love to look at them and write poetry, so the emperor jokingly called her "Plum Spirit", and later gave her the title Imperial Concubine Plum.

Unfortunately, she lost favour with the emperor when another woman was chosen to be imperial concubine. Therefore, she was told to move to the East Palace in Shangyang, and later killed herself by throwing herself into a well during the An Lushan-Shi Siming Rebellion. It is for her tragic fate and outstanding qualities that she is still worshipped to the day.

Translated by Wang Mingjie

Yunnan Provincial Cereals, Oils & Foodstuffs Import & Export Corporation



Established in 1956, Yunnan Provincial Cereals, Oils & Foodstuffs Import & Export Corporation is a specialized import and export corporation in the cereals, oils and foodstuffs business. Over the past 37 years, we have adhered to the principle of "Reputation First, the Best Service Possible". We use a flexible approach to conducting trade so as to meet the needs of our customers and expand into international markets. As a result, our exports have increased continuously and our corporation is highly trusted and appreciated by all our customers abroad.

Our main export items are:

- Large white kidney beans, large black kidney beans, other kidney beans, broad beans, peas, hempseed, buckwheat
 - Various fresh, salted, quick-frozen and dehydrated vegetables and edible wild herbs
 - Various dry and fresh mushrooms
 - Canned Yunnan ham, canned pineapple (Ieh-Ho brand), frozen goat meat, frozen beef, frozen silver fish, dried ginger and other foodstuffs.

We also undertake the consignment of imported wines, spirits and other beverages.

We cordially welcome both old and new customers to contact and work together with us in order to promote international friendship and develop trade relations.

Add: No.576 Beijing Road, Kunming, China Tel: 3133915, 3133890 Cable: CEROILFOOD or 4434
Telex: 64038 YUCOF CN Fax: (0871) 3134079 Postcode: 650011

ANIBY



BUSINESS SCOPE:

We deal in Leather Products,
Down and Feather Products,
Goat Skin Plates, Pig Leather, Fur & Fur
Products, Bristles, Casings, Carpets,
Angora Hair, Gloves, etc.



四川省畜產進出口公司

SICHUAN ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS IMP. & EXP. CORP.

中國四川省成都市一環路北四段102號

電傳：60153 CNABS CN 電話：3337586 電報：6651

傳真：3331270 CHENGDU 郵編：610081

102 Section 4 North, Yi Huan Road, Chengdu, China

Tlx: 60153 CNABS CN Tel: 3337586 Cable: 6651

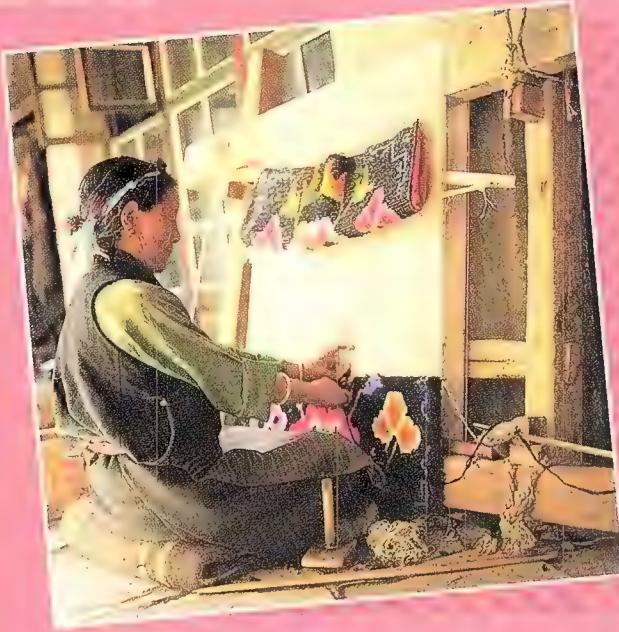
Fax: 3331270 CHENGDU Postcode: 610081



Tibetan Carpets

PHOTOS & TEXT BY LU HONGQI





began in the area south of Lhasa. By the time of the 13th Dalai Lama (1878-1933), a carpet weaving centre had developed at Gyangzê, where many people were engaged in the work. The 13th Dalai Lama even assigned one of the master weavers as a five-grade official to administer carpet weaving throughout Tibet.

What impressed me most about Tibetan carpets was the great variety of designs, which are created by temple artists, lamas, scholars and folk artists. There are three main types of designs, the first of which is the Dragon and Phoenix Design. As the dragon and phoenix are symbols of wealth, honour and happiness, they are often found on temple carpets. The second type is the "City Wall" Design, which is characterized by patterns with borders. Like a city surrounded by walls, it is trimmed with a fringe along the edge and the interior is decorated with religious patterns such as the Eight Buddhist Treasures and the Eight Immortals. The third type is the Full Tapestry Design, which usually features patterns taken from the lives of ordinary people. The source of these designs is very broad ranging; some are taken from architecture, some from traditional clothes and others from flora. The patterns are evenly arranged on the carpets without a border or fringe.

Tibetan carpets are woven with thread made of yak's hair. According to their different uses, the carpets are divided into three categories: cushion carpets, temple carpets and saddle carpets. Cushion carpets are used mostly in the home and are usually placed on top of white cushions or on the backs of chairs. Temple carpets are put in the scripture halls within temples for lamas to sit on when reciting scriptures. For lamas with exalted status, a square cushion is placed on top of the carpet. In vast Tibet, horse riding is very common. Since carpets are used to make sitting more comfortable in temples and homes, it is only a short step to designing saddle carpets to make horseback riding more relaxing as well.

C

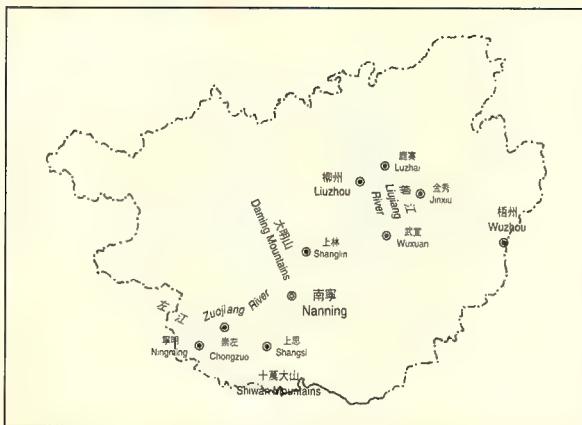
Translated by Xiong Zhenru

In the past I had heard much about Xinjiang's famous carpets, but knew little about Tibetan carpets. Then during a recent visit to Tibet, I unexpectedly found beautiful carpets wherever I went, both in temples and in the homes of ordinary people. The carpets are rich in colour and design, and have a strong local style.

Tibetan people have a long history of wool weaving. The archaeological finds from a Neolithic site in the Karuo Area in Tibet show that people from hunting societies living in this region knew how to weave with wild animal's hair. At the beginning of the 11th century, the production of carpets be-



Exploring Central and Southern Guangxi



Many visitors to the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region tend to stay in the Guilin-Yangshuo area, as this is the most developed vis-a-vis tourist facilities, as well as the most famed for its scenery. In recent years, however, so many tourists have inundated the Guilin area that some travelers have begun looking for other places of interest in the region.

Indeed, Guangxi has much more to offer visitors than just the sights around Guilin. In fact, it is probably one of the most beautiful and interesting provinces in all of China, with half its total land mass being made up of limestone and karst formations. In addition, it is home to 12 different minorities who live in compact communities that have remained virtually unchanged over the centuries.

Below we take a look at two of Guangxi's other major cities besides Guilin — Liuzhou and Nanning — the latter being the capital of Guangxi. Both of these cities are well worth a visit themselves, and also make ideal bases from which to explore the surrounding towns and villages.

LIUZHOU

Liuzhou is an ancient city surrounded by hills and water, easily accessible by train from Guilin or by river boat from Wuzhou, a small city on the border with Guangdong. Being located in the centre of Guangxi, Liuzhou has long been an important transportation hub, and the Liujiang River surrounding the city on three sides gives it the look of a peninsula.

The name Liuzhou means "willow prefecture" and the Liujiang River is lined with drooping willows and other trees,

making it a lovely place to simply stroll about. Liuzhou has a subtropical climate with mild summers and winters, and a yearly average temperature of 20°C. The city has a history of over 2,100 years and was home to two well-known personages: Liu Zongyuan, a Tang-dynasty writer; and Sister Liu the Third, a Zhuang woman who was a talented singer. All 12 of Guangxi's largest minority groups can be found in the city.

Sights Around the City

Yufeng (Fish Peak) Hill, also known as Carp Hill, is an 88-metre-high hill located in Yufeng Park, and gets its name from its resemblance to an upright fish. On the hill there are verdant bamboo groves, ancient buildings such as pavilions and towers, and seven interconnecting caves. From the top one has a panoramic view of the city, and at the foot of the hill is Xiaolong (Small Dragon) Pool, which flows into the Liujiang River. One can also see 50 cliffside inscriptions on the hill dating back to the Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties, as well as the place where Sister Liu the Third is said to have ascended to Heaven. Take bus number 4 or 11 to reach the park.

Twelve kilometres southeast of the city is the **Dule Rock Scenic Area**, a valley consisting of 18 rocky hills, a river and two man-made lakes. There are also 40 caverns here, three of which are open to the public and contain unusual stalactites of various sizes and shapes. Bus number 9 will take you to Dule Rock. Another scenic area just four kilometres south of Liuzhou is at **Dalong (Big Dragon) Pool**, once home to a legendary divine dragon. The pool is fed by an underground river and behind it are seven limestone hills. Bus number 4 will take you to the pool.

Visitors interested in prehistoric fossils might want to take a trip to the **Liujiang Man Caves**, located 16 kilometres southeast of the city. The main cave here, called Tongtian, is 120 metres long and contains human fossils as well as the remains of pandas and other mammals. The human skulls and bones found here are believed to belong to the Liujiang Man, a race of people who lived during the Paleolithic

Period around 50,000 years ago. Bus number 9 goes to the caves.

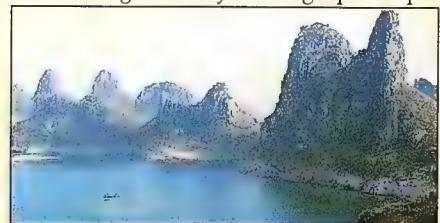
Right in Liuzhou city is **Liuhou Park**, where one can visit a temple built in memory of the writer Liu Zongyuan, who lived here during the years 815 to 819. The temple was rebuilt in 1762 and contains a statue of Liu, as well as information on his life. Also in the park are a zoo, a potted landscape garden and Taohua (Peach) Hill. Take bus number 2 to reach the park.

Outside Liuzhou

Jinxiu Yao Autonomous County Located 150 kilometres southeast of Liuzhou, Jinxiu is home to five branches of the Yao people: the Pan Yao, the Ao Yao, the Shanzi Yao, the Huanan Yao and the Chashan Yao. The people here have retained their unique customs and traditions, continuing the life style lived by their ancestors for centuries. Within Jinxiu County is the Dayao Mountain Folk Customs and Scenic Area, where the largest number of Yao people live. Here one can enjoy the beautiful karst scenery, as well as wander through Yao villages and meet the local people.

Luzhai Just one hour by train from Liuzhou, the town of Luzhai is another excellent place to enjoy the landscape typical of this region. Caves, karst hills, waterfalls and river scenery are the main features, and in Jinlong Cave one can see a dazzling array of stalactites and stalagmites.

Wuxuan This town is located 95 kilometres south of Liuzhou along the Qianjiang River. It has a population of 320,000, with the Zhuang minority making up 65.8 per



Dateng Gorge

cent. The town is surrounded by lovely mountain and river scenery and has three well-known places of interest: Baiya Gorge, Xiniu Cliff and Dateng Gorge, all of which boast winding rivers and strange rock formations in a pristine natural environment.

NANNING

For exploring the many sights of southern Guangxi, there is no better place to

start than the city of Nanning, capital of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Located about 250 kilometres south of Liuzhou and four hours by express train, Nanning has a mild climate and lies in the subtropical zone. For this reason, there is an enormous amount of vegetation around the city at all times of the year, and the streets are lined with mango, peach, jackfruit and other fruit trees. Unlike Liuzhou, Nanning is home to only one minority, the Zhuang, who in their outward appearance look much like the Han Chinese.

The most important festival for the Zhuang nationality is the third day of the third lunar month (this year falling on April 13), called Sanyuesan in Mandarin. On this day Zhuang singers, dressed in their finest costumes, come from all over Guangxi to Nanning to participate in the celebrations. Colourful tents are set up along the river banks and various types of performances are staged. The day climaxes with a singing contest in which male and female singers compete in their knowledge of songs, wit and voice. There are many other activities as well, which anyone can join in.

Sights Around the City

Nanning has two public parks worth a visit. In the southeastern part of the city is **Nanhu (South Lake) Park**, which covers a huge area of 127 hectares. Nanhu Lake takes up a full 3/4 of the entire area, and is surrounded by lush vegetation. The lake is as still as a mirror and often dotted with small boats. Around the lake are pavilions, towers, bridges, a potted landscape garden, a Chinese medicine garden, an orchid garden and an orchard. There are fish restaurants as well, where one can try local fish and other dishes. Take bus number 2 to reach the lake.

The other park in Nanning is the **Bailong (White Dragon) Park**, located in the north of the city on Wangxian Slope. Inside the 52-hectare park are 141 stone steps which lead up to an ancient white fortress called Zhenning Fortress. From here one has an excellent view of the Nanning area. At the foot of Wangxian Slope is the seven-hectare Bailong Lake, in the middle of which is an island and two bridges. On the southern bank of the lake is Wanglian (King of the Lotus) Pond, in which sits an incredibly large lotus plant (*Victoria amazonica Sowerby*) — thus the name. Buses 1 and 6 will take you to Bailong Park.

Also in the city, situated beside Minzu Square, is the **Guangxi Museum**. The building itself was constructed in the

southern Chinese style mixed with motifs from minority architecture, and houses over 100,000 historical relics and natural specimens, as well as over 70,000 books. The museum is divided into five sections or rooms. One has on display relics of the Liujiang Man and models of the Huashan cliff paintings. One room contains a collection of Guangxi's famous bronze drums, possibly the most extensive such collection anywhere. There are 50 drums on display, including a 300-kilo drum said to be the largest bronze drum in the world. Two other rooms are devoted to revolutionary history, and the last section showcases the customs and culture of Guangxi's minority groups. Take bus number 1 to reach the museum.

Just five kilometres southeast of Nanning is the **Qingxiu Mountain Scenic Area**, a place scholars and artists have been visiting ever since the Song Dynasty (960-1279). Ancient pagodas, Chinese-style pavilions, beautiful scenery and the Yongjiang River can be seen in this 670-hectare area, making it a wonderful place to hike and enjoy the peace and quiet. Special buses bound for Qingxiu Mountain will take you to the scenic area.

Outside Nanning

Chongzuo and the Zuojiang River The Zuojiang River begins just outside Nanning and runs southward all the way to Vietnam, meandering through jagged mountains and dense forests. About halfway between Nanning and the border with Vietnam is the ancient town of Chongzuo. This town is home to a remarkable stone forest, similar to its more famous cousin in Kunming. Covering an area of about 100 hectares, the stone hills are in a variety of strange shapes and are dotted with many ponds, bridges, caves, and other scenic attractions. On the 10th day of the fourth lunar month of every year (this year falling on May 20), over 10,000 people gather here for a song festival, attended by many minority peoples from the area.

Also in Chongzuo is a unique tilting pagoda called Guilong Tower. Built during the Ming Dynasty in 1621, the pagoda stands on a solitary piece of rock that juts into the Zuojiang River. Itself made of stone, the pagoda is an imposing structure that reminds one of the Leaning Tower of Pisa. From Chongzuo one can also take a bus to the town of Shuolong, where there is a beautiful horseshoe-shaped waterfall named Detian Waterfall.

The Huashan Cliff Paintings Continuing south along the Zuojiang River one comes to the town of Ningming, from where one can reach the Huashan Cliff

Paintings about 25 kilometres away. From Ningming one can go by either riverboat or bus to a place the Zhuang call Balai (or Huashan in Mandarin), the location of these ancient paintings. Executed some 2,000 years ago by the ancestors of the Zhuang nationality, the frescoes were painted using a red dye which, due to a chemical reaction with the rock, is still bright and clearly visible. There are about 1,300 different pictures in all, representing a wide range of human activities such as



dancing and riding animals. These unusually well-preserved frescoes give one a glimpse into the lives of these ancient people, and also present one with an intriguing question: Just how did they manage to scale these sheer cliff faces 2,000 years ago in order to make the paintings?

Daming Mountains North of Nanning and near the town of Shanglin, the Daming Mountain Range extends for some 100 kilometres and has an average elevation of 1,200 metres. This primeval forest region encompasses a wide range of geological features, including deep valleys, green



hills, steep precipices and strangely-shaped rocks. From the top of the Daming Mountains one can see the road that spirals up to the main summit, as well as terraced fields and reservoirs. On the mountain is a flat terrace called Tianping, from where one can see the first of three great waterfalls. The second one below is longer than the first, at 60 metres, and at the foot of Sanxiao Peak one can see the third, some 30 metres long. Wandering around this fan-

tastic mountain area is a perfect way to relax and enjoy the beauty of nature.

Yao Villages in the Shiwan Mountains
South of Nanning in Shangsi County are a large number of Yao minority villages set in the dense forests of the Shiwan Mountains. As this area is quite remote, the Yao people have been able to preserve the customs and life style of their forebears. They live in pointed-roof houses made of mud, bamboo and wood, usually consisting of

three rooms. The Yao people love to sing, dance and play bronze drums, and have a festival almost every month. The women wear colourful hand-made clothes and silver ornaments, all exquisitely made. Their traditional handicrafts include embroidery, brocade and batik, and the people are very hospitable to visitors. For travellers who enjoy getting off the usual tourist track, a trip to the Shiwan Mountains is sure to be an interesting experience. 

Tianjin's Yangliuqing Art Society

A replica of a traditional Chinese painting



A Scene from the Tale of the White Snake

Yangliuqing is a small town in the western suburbs of Tianjin that began producing colourful New Year woodblock prints back in the mid-1600s, during the Ming Dynasty. Over the years, local folk artists worked to improve the quality of this craft, while also expanding the subject matter of the pictures to other areas. The original New Year pictures have developed into a unique art form, characterized by the combination of block printing and hand painting in one work.

Now, the Yangliuqing Art Society acts as a publishing house for woodblock prints, watercolour block prints, calligraphy, paintings by famous artists, New Year pictures, stone rubbings and more. The society also deals in scrolls, calendars, picture albums, writing brushes, ink slabs, paper and chops.

Many of the woodblock prints produced by the society are replicas of traditional Chinese ink paintings that were originally



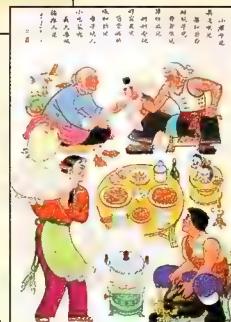
Zhongkui
In legends, Zhongkui was said to be endowed with the power of driving away evil spirits. So when New Year's Day came, people used to hang up a picture of Zhongkui in the hope that they might enjoy a new year of peace and security.

done free-hand. As working on woodblocks requires special carving skills and careful attention, these reproductions are indeed exceptional.

The New Year woodblock prints, on the other hand, are original works of art that represent people's lives, customs and hopes for the coming year. Chubby babies, scenes from classic tales or myths, fish, fruit and fierce warriors are some of the images most commonly seen on New Year pictures. Their purpose is generally to either ward off evil or bad luck (as with the fierce warrior-gods), or express the hope for a rich harvest (fish and fruit), longevity (peaches) or a large family (chubby babies).



Longevity
In this picture of chubby children, the huge peach is a symbol of longevity.



An Artisan's Family

The Yangliuqing Art Society has three shops in Tianjin and another in Yangliuqing Town and offers a wide variety of items for sale, as well as mounting services for paintings, calligraphy or maps. So, on your next trip to Tianjin, why not stop in and take a look at some of these outstanding works of art? 

Tianjin Yangliuqing Art Society Service Shop
111 Sanheli, Tonglou, Heli District, Tianjin
Tel: 3334464, 3311531

Tianjin Yangliuqing Art Society Changchundao Shop
136 Changchun Road, Heping District, Tianjin
Tel: 7302742

Tianjin Yangliuqing Art Society Guwenhuajie Shop
31 Gongnan, Guwenhuajie (Ancient Culture Street), Nankai District, Tianjin

The Branch of the Western Suburbs Tianjin Yangliuqing Art Society
18 Xinhua Road, Yangliuqing Town, Tianjin
Tel: 7392606

Flights to and from Guilin

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Beijing — Guilin	1 3 4	13:20	16:00	WH 2320
	1 3 6	11:30	14:20	CZ8912
	3 5 7	14:55	17:20	CA1311
Guilin — Beijing	1 5	19:25	21:55	CA1366
	1 3 4	10:00	12:25	WH2319
	1 3 6	08:00	10:35	CZ8911
	2 4 6	19:25	21:55	CA1335
Guangzhou — Guilin	3	13:35	14:35	WH2316
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	09:00	09:50	CZ8932
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	15:30	16:25	CZ3303
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	20:55	21:50	CZ8934
Guilin — Guangzhou	3	11:45	12:45	WH2315
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	07:25	08:20	CZ8931
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	19:10	20:05	CZ8933
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	21:00	21:55	CZ3304
Hangzhou — Guilin	1	18:05	19:45	3Q4588
	1 5	12:50	14:50	MF8532
	2 4 6	16:45	18:45	CA1335
Guilin — Hangzhou	1	15:45	17:15	3Q4587
	1 5	10:00	12:00	MF8531
Shanghai — Guilin	1 3 5 6	08:10	10:30	SF331
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	11:50	14:20	MU5343
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	16:10	18:40	MU5313
Guilin — Shanghai	1 3 5 6	11:30	13:25	SF332
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	15:10	17:20	MU5344
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	19:30	21:40	MU5314
Shenzhen — Guilin	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	15:05	16:10	CZ3957
Guilin — Shenzhen	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	21:00	22:10	CZ3958
Hong Kong — Guilin	2	08:00	09:10	KA375
	5	09:15	10:25	KA375
	1 3 4 6 7	19:05	20:15	KA375
Guilin — Hong Kong	2	10:10	11:15	KA374
	5	11:25	12:30	KA374
	7	21:40	22:45	KA374
	1 3 4 6	21:15	22:20	KA374

(Valid Spring 1994)

Flights to and from Nanning

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Beijing — Nanning	1	08:15	11:30	CZ361
	2	13:10	16:25	CZ8914
	4	11:30	14:45	CJ6319
	5	13:20	16:35	CZ8918
	6	10:30	13:45	CJ6339
	2 6	10:00	13:10	SX4137
	1 3 5 7	08:05	11:10	CA1315
Nanning — Beijing	1	15:25	18:40	CZ362
	2	08:50	12:05	CZ8913
	2	14:00	17:00	SZ4138
	4	15:35	18:40	CJ6320
	5	09:15	12:30	CZ8917
	6	14:45	17:45	SZ4140
	6	15:15	18:25	CJ6340
Kunming — Nanning	1 3 5 7	12:10	15:10	CA1316
Nanning — Kunming	3 6	17:00	18:00	3Q4387
Guangzhou — Nanning	7	09:20	10:20	CZ3925
Nanning — Guangzhou	2 5	07:50	08:50	CZ3307
	1 3 4 6 7	19:50	20:50	CZ3327
	7	18:10	19:10	CZ3926
Shanghai — Nanning	2 5	09:40	10:45	CZ3308
	1 3 4 6 7	21:30	22:30	CZ3328
	4	14:15	17:05	3U502
	7	14:40	17:20	CZ3512
Nanning — Shanghai	1 5	13:25	16:05	SF391
	3 6 7	13:50	16:30	SZ4537
	4	10:50	13:25	3U501
Nanning — Shanghai	7	11:10	13:50	CZ3511
	1 5	17:10	19:40	SF392
	3 6 7	10:35	13:05	SZ4538

(Valid Spring 1994)

Flights to and from Tianjin

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Beijing — Tianjin	4	10:45	11:20	CA1001
	3 6 7	08:10	08:45	CA1171
	2 4 6 7	07:55	08:35	CA1157
Tianjin — Beijing	4	20:50	21:25	CA1002
	3 6 7	17:10	17:50	CA1172
	2 4 6 7	17:35	18:10	CA1158
Guangzhou — Tianjin	3 5	19:20	22:20	XH132
	4 6	15:35	18:15	CZ3127
	4 7	19:20	22:10	CA1332
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	11:15	13:55	CA1318
Tianjin — Guangzhou	3 5	15:35	18:15	XH131
	4 6	19:10	21:50	CZ3128
	4 7	15:50	18:30	CA1331
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	07:25	10:15	CA1317
Shanghai — Tianjin	2 3 4 6 7	12:20	14:00	XH152
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:20	19:10	CA1524
Tianjin — Shanghai	2 3 4 6 7	09:40	11:20	XH151
Tianjin — Shanghai	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	14:45	16:30	CA1523
Shenzhen — Tianjin	1	19:20	22:10	XH134
Shenzhen — Tianjin	2 4 5 6	19:10	22:00	CA1320
Tianjin — Shenzhen	1	15:35	18:30	XH133
Tianjin — Shenzhen	2 4 5 6	15:25	18:20	CA1319
Hong Kong — Tianjin	4	12:55	15:50	CA1001
Hong Kong — Tianjin	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	09:25	12:40	CA103
Tianjin — Hong Kong	4	17:00	19:40	CA1002
Tianjin — Hong Kong	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	13:45	16:35	CA104
Hong Kong — Tianjin	5	08:55	12:00	KA336
Tianjin — Hong Kong	5	12:55	16:05	KA337

(Valid Spring 1994)

Flights to and from Kunming

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Guilin — Kunming	1	20:35	21:55	3Q4588
	6	20:35	21:55	3Q4596
	2	19:15	20:35	3Q4350
	4 5	07:50	09:20	CZ8945
Kunming — Guilin	1	13:50	14:55	3Q4587
	6	13:50	14:55	3Q4595
	2	17:20	18:25	3Q4349
	4 5	10:10	11:40	CZ8946
Shanghai — Kunming	1 5	10:50	14:00	MU5405
	4 7	19:20	22:15	3Q4546
	1 3 5	08:40	11:55	SF451
	1 2 3 5 6	17:20	20:15	3Q4544
Kunming — Shanghai	1 5	14:50	17:15	MU5406
	4 7	16:00	18:30	3Q4545
	1 3 5	12:45	15:30	SF452
	1 2 3 5 6	14:00	16:30	3Q4543
Shenzhen — Kunming	1 6	08:30	10:15	CZ3459
	2 7	19:15	21:05	3Q4396
	3 6	17:20	19:10	SZ4374
	4 5	19:40	21:30	3Q4394
Kunming — Shenzhen	1 6	11:05	12:55	CZ3460
	2 7	16:45	18:25	3Q4395
	3 6	14:40	16:30	SZ4373
	4 5	17:10	18:50	3Q4393
Hong Kong — Kunming	2 4 7	18:35	20:45	KA393
Kunming — Hong Kong	2 4 7	21:40	23:30	KA392
Hong Kong — Kunming	1 2 3 5 6 7	13:20	15:25	CZ342
Kunming — Hong Kong	1 2 3 5 6 7	10:35	12:30	CZ341
Singapore — Kunming	3 6	12:40	16:20	3Q464
Kunming — Singapore	3 6	07:50	11:40	3Q463
Vientiane — Kunming	6	13:35	15:55	CZ394
Kunming — Vientiane	6	12:05	12:35	CZ393

(Valid Spring 1994)

Flights to and from Liuzhou

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Guangzhou — Liuzhou	1 5	12:10	13:40	CZ3390
Liuzhou — Guangzhou	1 5	09:30	11:00	CZ3389
Beihai — Liuzhou	1 5	08:10	09:00	CZ3339
Liuzhou — Beihai	1 5	14:10	15:00	CZ3340

(Valid Spring 1994)

Train Schedules Beijing — Tianjin

Tour 5	Tour 3	Tour 1	Train No. Station	Tour 2	Tour 4	Tour 6
19:40	15:22	08:35	Beijing	07:47	10:43	18:27
21:26	17:08	10:19	Tianjin North	06:11	09:01	16:50
21:34	17:16	10:27	Tianjin	06:00	08:50	16:38

Train Schedules Nanning — Liuzhou — Kunming

290/287 F.T.	225/224 F.T.	165/164 F.T.	79 Exp.	Train No. Station	80 Exp.	166/163 F.T.	226/227 F.T.	289/288 F.T.
From Zhanjiang	13:54	From Guangzhou	From Shanghai	Nanning	To Shanghai	To Guangzhou	14:14	To Zhanjiang
01:34	18:51	14:58	04:17	Liuzhou	00:40	16:16	09:10	04:25
09:28	02:56	22:33	11:19	Mawei	17:36	08:28	00:38	20:38
17:01	10:49	06:24	18:31	Guiyang	10:16	01:00	16:52	12:44
	To Chengdu	11:54	23:13	Liupanshui	05:34	19:46	To Chengdu	
	19:36	06:54	Kunming	22:06	11:55			

Exp. — Express

F.T. — Fast through passenger train

Train Schedules Nanning — Liuzhou — Guilin — Guangzhou

217 F.T.	213 F.T.	115/118 F.T.	33/37 Exp.	5 Exp.	Train No. Station	6 Exp.	34/38 Exp.	116/117 F.T.	214 F.T.	218 F.T.
		From Xi'an	18:02	From Beijing	Guangzhou	To Beijing	07:19	To Xi'an		
			21:26		Shaoguan		04:11			
09:53	21:45	02:14	02:30	23:49	Hengyang	08:46	23:01	06:50	16:54	07:54
12:40	01:00	06:22	05:10	02:07	Lengshuitan	06:26	20:12	04:08	14:02	05:04
16:50	05:58	10:27	09:05	05:38	Guilin North	02:31	16:45	23:09	09:07	23:52
17:11	06:08	10:47	09:15	05:59	Guilin	02:12	16:30	22:50	8:50	23:33
21:00		14:02		08:45	Liuzhou	23:07		19:32		19:52
		19:34		12:45	Nanning	18:49		14:29		

Train Schedules Pingxiang — Nanning — Liuzhou — Guilin

379 O.	317 O.	91 Exp.	Train No. Station	92 Exp.	318 O.	380 O.
		15:02	Guilin	14:27		
07:35		17:42	Liuzhou	11:54		20:55
12:05	07:54	21:35	Nanning	08:00	18:42	15:53
	10:20		Chongzuo		16:28	
	11:30		Ningming		15:07	
	12:26		Pingxiang		14:10	

O. — Ordinary passenger train

Train Schedules Beijing — Tianjin — Tangshan — Guye — Qinhuangdao

327 O.	319 O.	317 O.	313 O.	311 O.	309 O.	303/302 O.	Train No. Station	304/301 O.	310 O.	312 O.	314 O.	318 O.	320 O.	328 O.
14:17					06:50	From Shijiazhuang	Beijing South	To Shijiazhuang	20:30					12:08
—	10:50		17:32	09:13	—	13:08	Beijing	14:55	—	08:28	16:35		20:13	—
14:32	11:13		17:53	09:34	07:05	13:31	Fengtai	14:05	20:18	08:10	16:17		19:56	11:56
15:39	12:02		18:42	10:23	07:54	14:20	Langfang	13:18	19:31	07:22	15:30		19:04	11:09
—	—		19:14	10:56	08:27	—	Yangcun	12:49	19:03	06:53	15:03		—	10:40
16:35	12:55		19:42	11:24	08:58	15:13	Tianjin North	12:24	18:38	06:27	14:37		18:13	10:17
16:55	13:15	08:20	19:50	11:32	09:18	15:33	Tianjin	12:10	18:27	06:15	14:26	17:40	18:02	09:02
17:30	—	09:11			09:53	16:08	Tanggu	11:21	17:38		—	—	—	09:13
18:55	15:00	10:36			11:17	17:34	Tangshan	10:02	—			16:07	15:50	07:44
19:21		11:04			11:45	18:03	Guye	09:33	16:03			15:38	07:15	
		11:35			12:15	18:41	Luanxian	08:53	—			15:06	06:40	
		12:07			12:46	19:13	Changli	08:20	15:06			14:33	06:00	
		12:36			13:14	19:40	Beidaihe	07:55	14:41			14:08	05:35	
		12:58			13:37	20:02	Qinhuangdao	07:30	14:17			13:42		05:10

Average Climatic Conditions in Guangxi, Tianjin/Tanggu, Yunnan and Tibet

			Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Guangxi	Guilin	Temperature (°C)	13.2	18.4	23.0	26.2	28.3	27.7	7.9	9.1	25.6	20.7	15.1	10.2
		Rainfall (mm)	54.5	71.7	126.6	284.4	352.1	316.9	233.7	164.3	63.6	101.3	79.2	54.7
	Nanning	Temperature (°C)	12.8	14.1	17.6	22.0	26.0	27.4	28.3	27.8	26.6	23.3	18.6	14.7
		Rainfall (mm)	38.0	36.4	54.4	89.9	186.8	232.0	195.1	215.5	118.9	69.0	37.8	26.9
Tianjin	Liuzhou	Temperature (°C)	10.3	11.7	15.6	20.5	24.8	27.2	28.8	28.5	26.7	22.5	17.0	12.4
		Rainfall (mm)	40.5	48.1	84.3	160.1	251.8	245.6	200.8	204.1	69.0	80.2	58.2	46.2
	Tianjin	Temperature (°C)	-4.0	-1.6	5.0	13.2	20.0	24.1	26.4	25.5	20.8	13.6	5.2	-1.6
		Rainfall (mm)	3.1	6.0	6.4	21.0	30.6	69.3	189.8	162.4	43.4	24.9	9.3	3.6
Yunnan	Tanggu	Temperature (°C)	-3.9	-1.9	4.3	12.0	19.0	23.4	26.2	25.8	21.3	14.3	5.7	-1.5
		Rainfall (mm)	3.1	5.2	6.2	22.4	29.1	65.8	200.8	175.6	51.3	26.3	10.5	4.6
	Kunming	Temperature (°C)	7.7	9.6	13.0	16.5	19.1	19.5	19.8	19.1	17.5	14.9	11.3	8.2
		Rainfall (mm)	11.6	11.2	15.2	21.1	93.0	183.7	212.3	202.2	119.5	85.0	38.6	13.0
Tibet	Lhasa	Temperature (°C)	-3.8	-1.6	1.7	5.2	9.5	12.6	13.2	12.5	11.1	6.5	0.8	-2.9
		Rainfall (mm)	5.4	14.5	19.2	28.1	26.8	86.0	157.5	155.2	72.4	42.4	8.3	4.0
	Qamdo	Temperature (°C)	-2.6	0.5	4.3	8.3	12.2	14.9	16.1	15.3	13.0	8.2	2.3	-2.1
		Rainfall (mm)	1.6	3.8	6.8	14.9	45.7	90.3	106.0	101.4	72.2	29.4	3.6	2.1

(Continued from page 55)

An Artist's Journey to Tibet

the mountain pass we could just make out some Mani stones and a round, ice-covered lake in the falling snow. We eagerly jumped out of the bus and started taking pictures. Suddenly, the snow stopped, giving way to a brilliant blue sky and revealing the snowy peaks and lake. The reflection of the blue sky and mountains in the mirror-like lake was a scene of extraordinary and magical beauty.

That afternoon as we drove into a river valley, everyone on the bus suddenly came alive with excitement at the sight of hundreds of gigantic Mani stones carved with scriptures. They covered an area of about half a square kilometre and faced a pyramid-shaped mountain. Each stone was a light reddish brown in colour, and was carved with one bold and forceful letter. Every one of these Mani stones was like a work of abstract art, decorated by colourful prayer flags that rustled in the wind and yak skulls that had been weathered white by rain, snow and wind. The dazzling combination of mountain peaks and this huge stone formation was so simple and yet so perfect an artistic creation, it was some time before we were able to tear ourselves away.

Back on the road again, we soon passed two young Buddhist monks who were kowtowing on the dusty and bumpy road. With each kowtow, they prostrated themselves fully on the ground, forehead touching the earth. They told us they had come from Aba in Sichuan Province and had been on the road, kowtowing all the way, for eleven months. Travelling in this manner it would take at least another six months before they would reach Lhasa.

All these surprises in one day made me think hard about the timeless nature of the mountains, grasslands, valleys, forests, lakes and rivers; about the pilgrims and travellers whose devotion helped them overcome all difficulties, and about the numerous historical, cultural and religious sites we had seen during our travels. Finally, deep in my heart, man, history, nature and philosophy came together in a kind of revelation, an inner personal experience of the spirit of the universe. I felt that by being in close contact with nature as we had, one could find peace of mind and inspiration for one's creative work, and it is this which results in the birth of art, religion and philosophy. Through this

process, one's spiritual beliefs arise all on their own, without conscious thought.

We arrived at Qamdo on October 19: It had taken us seven days to cover the 1,127 kilometres from Lhasa to this eastern town. As we entered the Hengduan Mountains, the forests became thick with tall China firs and cedars, their pink-green tufts swinging in the wind. The colour of deep autumn covered the hills, in sharp contrast to the grasslands of northern Tibet. Many nature reserves have been established in this region and signboards put up, asking people to protect nature. Unfortunately, however, many large patches of forest had been reduced to nothing but pitiful tree stumps. After seeing and photographing these desolate sites, I was filled with indignation at man's brutal destruction of nature.

In Yanjing, we came across an early 19th-century cemetery where foreign missionaries and their Tibetan followers were buried. A huge cross stood in the middle of the cemetery, along with words carved both in English and Tibetan. On the afternoon of October 22, our bus arrived at a reddish hill on the Yunnan-Tibet Highway, which marked our entry point back into Yunnan. We felt sad at having to leave Tibet, as if we were saying goodbye to an old, dear friend. I told myself that I would come back, to make up for what I had not seen or accomplished this time.

Although I had seen the snowy mountains of northwest Yunnan, as well as Hutiao (Tiger Leaping) Gorge and Bitaihai Lake before, I longed to visit them again before returning home. Here, every site changes with the varying seasons and weather, looking different according to one's angle and the amount of light. Mountains here are not at all like those in Tibet, as the former are known for their gentle nurturing of the land and the latter, for their strength and power.

So it was that, on November 1, after two months and five days, we finally returned to our starting point of Kunming, winding up our incredible journey to the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau — a journey of over 14,000 kilometres, countless photographs and unforgettable memories.

March 31, 1993 Kunming

Translated by Huang Youyi



EXECUTIVE JOTTINGS

Major Hotels in Guangxi, Tianjin and Yunnan

Guilin, Guangxi

Guilin Garland Hotel

桂林花苑酒店
86 Zhongshan Road South, Guilin, Guangxi 541002
Tel: 332510, 332511, 332512
Telex: 43438 GLGAR CN
Fax: (0773) 333340
300 rooms Rates: US\$ 40
Located 12 km from airport, 300 m from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, banquet hall, coffee shop, bar, shopping arcade, business centre, beauty salon, massage

Guilin New City Hotel

桂林新城市大酒店
86 Zhongshan Road South, Guilin, Guangxi 541002
Tel: (0773) 332511 Telex: 48438 GLGAR CN
Fax: (0773) 333340
GM: Li Xin
Opened 1 July 1987
300 rooms
Located in the city centre, 12km/20 min to airport, 0.2 km to railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, dance hall, bar, sauna, massage

Guilin Osmanthus Hotel

桂林桂花大酒店
451 Zhongshan Road South, Guilin, Guangxi 541002
Tel: 334300, 332261 Telex: 48455 GLOSS CN
Fax: (0773) 335316
GM: Wang Tiansheng
Opened 30 June 1987
400 rooms and suites Rates: Double US\$69 (+15%)
Located in the heart of the city, 14 km from airport, 1 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, business centre, coffee shop, bar, shopping arcade, swimming pool, disco, karaoke, massage

Guilin Plaza



桂林漓江大酒店
20 Lijiang Road, Guilin, Guangxi 541004
Tel: (0773) 512488 Telex: (085) 48449 PLAZA CN
Fax: (0773) 513323/5133256/513328
304 rooms and suites Rates: Double US\$85, suite US\$130 (all +15%)
Located 13 km/25 min from airport, 2.5 km/25 min from railway station
Taxi fare to/from airport, Rmb ¥60; railway station, Rmb ¥20
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, multi-function room, karaoke, bar, sauna, gym, swimming pool, billiard room, beauty salon, shopping arcade

Guilin Riverside Resort

桂林漓江大酒店
Anjiazhou, Guilin, Guangxi 541002
Tel: (0773) 515291 Telex: 48457 GLRSR CN
Fax: (0773) 334973
GM: Ricky Chan
Opened January 1987
232 rooms Rates: Standard US\$65, superior US\$70, suite US\$110/155
Located 20 minutes from airport, 1 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, bar, karaoke, swimming pool

Guilin Royal Garden Hotel

桂林花园酒店



Yanjiang Road, Guilin, Guangxi 541004

Tel: (0773) 512411 513611
Fax: (0773) 515051 515052
GM: Chen Dong Hua
Opened 30 May 1987
350 rooms Rates: US\$105 (+15%)
Located in the northeastern part of the city, 16 km/30 min from airport, 2 km/10 min from railway station
Facilities: Chinese, Western and Japanese restaurants, banquet hall, garden cafe, nightclub, disco, dance hall, shopping arcade, gym, swimming pool, tennis courts, billiard room, sauna, massage

Holiday Inn Guilin

假日桂林賓館



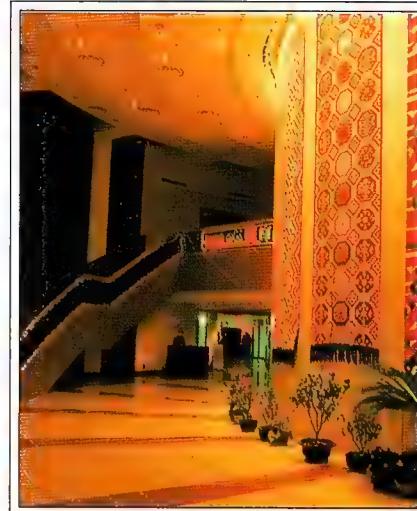
14 Ronghu Road South, Guilin, Guangxi 541002

Tel: 223950 Telex: 48456 GLHCL CN
Fax: (0773) 222101
GM: Jerry Goh
Opened May 1987
259 rooms Rates: US\$90
Located 20 minutes from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, banquet rooms, karaoke, disco, bar, gym, sauna, swimming pool, business centre, arts and crafts shop, beauty salon, massage, babysitting service, bicycle rental

Hong Kong Hotel Guilin

桂林香港飯店

8 Xihuan Yi Road, Guilin, Guangxi 541002
Tel: 333889 Telex: 48454 GLXJH CN
Fax: (0773) 332752
GM: Xu Liu Jun
Opened 15 May 1989
300 rooms Rates: Double US\$65, superior US\$65, suite US\$100 (all + 10%)
Located in the heart of the city, 15 km from airport, 2 km from railway station



Taxi fare to/from airport, Rmb ¥60; railway station, Rmb ¥10

Facilities: Chinese restaurants, revolving restaurant, business centre, function room, shopping arcade, tennis courts, massage, sauna, disco, karaoke, beauty salon

Sheraton Guilin Hotel

桂林文華大酒店
1 Jiefang Road East, Guilin, Guangxi 541001
Tel: 228228 Telex: 48475 GLHUG CN

Fax: 223868
GM: Chen Kong
Opened 18 August 1989
230 rooms and suites Rates: Single/double US\$80, suite US\$150
Located in the city centre, 15 km from airport, 10 minutes from railway station
Taxi fare to/from airport, Rmb ¥60
Facilities: Chinese and Italian restaurants, banquet and meeting rooms, karaoke, disco, massage, beauty salon, shopping arcade, bar

Lijiang Hotel

桂林飯店
1 Shahu Road, Guilin, Guangxi 541001
Tel: 222881, 225991 Telex: 48470 GLLIR CN

Fax: (0773) 222891
GM: Ye Linhua
Opened August 1976
388 rooms Rates: US \$50
Located in city centre, 13 km from airport, 2 km from railway station
Taxi fare to/from airport, US\$10, railway station, US\$2
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, shopping arcade, multi-function hall, coffee shop, bar, business centre, nightclub, beauty salon, sauna

Sheraton Guilin Hotel

桂林文華大酒店



Binjiang Road South, Guilin, Guangxi 541001

Tel: (773) 225588 Telex: 48439 GLMAN CN
Fax: (773) 225598
GM: Henry Lee
Opened 8 April 1988
460 rooms Rates: Double US\$90, riverview US\$95, suite US\$150/250
Located in the heart of the city, 14 km from airport, 2 km from railway station

Facilities : Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, business centre, bar, karaoke, coffee shop, disco, gym, swimming pool, sauna, massage, billiard room, facilities for handicapped persons

Nanning, Guangxi

Mingyuan Hotel

明園飯店
38 Xinxing Road, Nanning, Guangxi 530012

Tel: 28923 Telex: 48143 MIYUH CN

Fax: (0771) 28583

GM: Don Weichao

Opened October 1956

248 rooms

Located in city centre, 34 km from airport, 3 km from railway station

Facilities: Shops, bar, disco, beauty salon, car rental

Xiyuan Hotel

西園飯店
38 Jiangnan Road, Nanning, Guangxi 530031

Tel: 29923, 22075 Telex: 48137 XIYUH CN

Fax: 210313

GM: Zhang Shaohua

Opened 1959

760 beds

Located in the southern part of the city, 30 km from airport, 4 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, shopping arcade, beauty salon, bar, clinic, billiard room, swimming pool, car and bicycle rental

Yongzhou Hotel

粵州飯店
59 Xinxing Road, Nanning, Guangxi 530012

Tel: 28323, 23120 Telex: 48145 JCYZH CN

Fax: 25032

GM: Jin Zhengzhong

Opened 1956

933 beds

Located in city centre, 34 km from airport, 3 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, shops, beauty salon, bar, dance hall

Liuzhou, Guangxi

Liuzhou Grand Hotel

柳州賓館
21 Longcheng Road, Liuzhou, Guangxi 545001

Tel: 23854, 23889, 26168

359 rooms and suites

Located in the city centre, 5 km from airport, 2 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, business centre, dance hall, coffee shop, bar, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, gym, swimming pool, sauna, beauty salon, clinic, billiard room, babysitting service

Tianjin

Astor Hotel

利頌德大飯店



33 Tai'erzhuang Road, Heping District, Tianjin 300042

Tel: 3311688, 331112 Telex: 23266 ASHTL CN

Fax: 316282

GM: Tian Yu Tang

Opened 1863

234 rooms and suites Rates: Standard US\$100

Located 20 km from airport, 3 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese, Western and Japanese restaurants,

business centre, conference rooms, banquet room, disco, karaoke, shopping centre, beauty salon, coffee shop, clinic, babysitting service, sauna, massage, billiard room

Bohai Hotel

渤海賓館

21 Xinbei Road, Tanggu, Tianjin 300451

Tel: 9383212, 9382009

Fax: 983329

GM: Mao Yangzhu

330 rooms and suites

Located 6 km from city centre, 30 km from airport, 4 km from railway station

Facilities : Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, business centre, dance hall, disco, coffee shop, bar, shopping arcade, clinic, beauty salon, swimming pool, mini-golf

The Crystal Palace Hotel, Tianjin

天津水晶宮飯店



Youyi and Binhui Roads Hexi District, Tianjin 300061

Tel: 3310567 Telex: 23277 TCPH CN

Fax: 310591

GM: Cunming Zhang

346 rooms and suites

Located 4 km from city centre, 17 km from airport, 6 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, banquet hall, business centre, function rooms, coffee shop, bar, karaoke, health club, tennis courts, swimming pool, clinic, shopping arcade, beauty salon

Friendship Hotel Tianjin

天津友誼賓館

94 Nanjing Road, Tianjin 300040

Tel: 3310372-3 Telex: 23264 FRHTL CN

Fax: 310616

GM: Zhao Xue Ming

Opened August 1975

274 rooms and 29 suites

Located in city centre, 20 km from airport, 1.5 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, shopping arcade, bar, beauty salon, disco, health centre

Geneva Hotel

天津華大飯店

32 Youyi Road, Hexi District, Tianjin 300061

Tel: 8352222 Telex: 23074 TWTC CN

Fax: 8359855

GM: Huo Zhaohu

Opened 15 March 1989

244 rooms and 26 suites Rates: US\$70 (+10%)

Located 5 km from city centre, 18 km from airport, 8 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, exhibition hall, business centre, coffee shop, bar, ballroom, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, clinic, beauty salon, gym, billiard room, sauna, massage

Hyatt Tianjin

天津凱悅飯店

219 Jiefang Road North, Heping District, Tianjin 300042

Tel: 3318888 Telex: 23270 HYTJN CN

Fax: 3311234

GM: Peter Chau

Opened 16 August 1986

420 rooms and suites Rates: Standard US\$120 (+15%)

Facilities: Chinese, Western and Japanese restaurants, business centre, club bar, health spa

Tianjin Xingang International Seamen's Club

新港國際海員俱樂部

Xingang, Tanggu District, Tianjin 300450

Tel: 9373205 Fax: 973203

GM: Xia Qingcheng

79 rooms and 9 suites

Located 40 km from airport, 10 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese restaurant, theatre, bar, disco, shopping arcade, billiard room, beauty salon, bowling

The Park Hotel Tianjin

天津樂園賓館

1 Leyuan Road, Hexi District, Tianjin 300201

Tel: 8309818 Telex: 23381 TJPH CN

Fax: 802042

GM: Han Li

Opened March 1987

200 rooms and suites

Located 17 km from airport, 8 km from railway station

Facilities: Business centres, karaoke, dance hall, billiard room, shops, beauty salon, car rental

Sheraton Tianjin Hotel

天津喜來登大酒店

Zijin Road, Hexi District, Tianjin 300061

Tel: (86-22) 3343388 Telex: 23352 SHTSH CN

GM: Benedict Chow

Opened 26 October 1987

281 rooms and 48 suites Rates: US\$125 (+15%)

Located 21 km from airport, 5 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, ballroom, meeting rooms, fitness centre, indoor swimming pool, bar

Tianjin Garden Hotel

天津華園賓館

271 Machangdao, Hexi District, Tianjin 300204

Tel: 2320732, 7356531, 3342234

Telex: 234044 TSCH CN

Opened 1960

53 rooms and suites

Facilities: Restaurants, bar, shop, meeting rooms

Tianjin Huacheng Hotel

天津華成賓館

253 Hongqi Road South, Nankai District,

Tianjin 300191

Tel: 3369219 Telex: 23352 HCHTJ CN

Fax: 3368395

GM: Cao Lian Zhong

Opened September 1987

115 rooms and suites Rates: Single US\$30, suites US\$60

Located 30 km from airport, 10 km from railway station

Taxi to/from airport, Rmb ¥50; railway station, Rmb ¥23

Facilities: Chinese restaurant, banquet hall, conference rooms, dance hall, billiard room, karaoke, shopping arcade

Tianjin View Hotel

天津北辰賓館

1 Zhahei Road, Tanggu District, Tianjin 300452

Tel: 7371301-04

Telex: 23376 TBFVH CN

Fax: 771322

GM: Wang Zhigang

158 rooms and 22 suites

Located 45 km from city centre, 46 km from airport, 11 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese restaurant, theatre, bar, disco, shopping arcade, beauty salon, billiard room, bowling

Victory Hotel

勝利賓館

Jintang Road, Tanggu District, Tianjin 300451

Tel: 9385833

Telex: 23375 TJVH CN

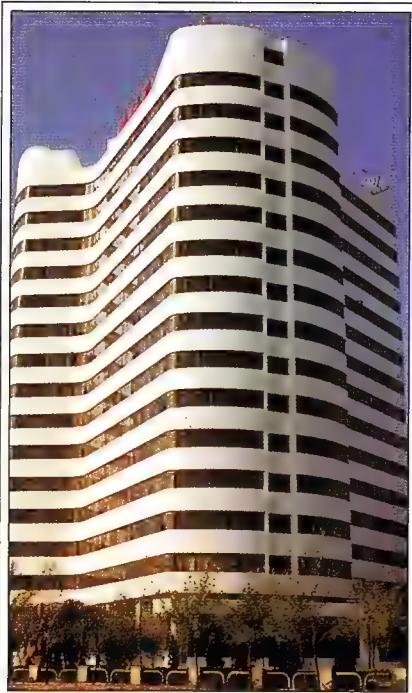
Fax: 984470

GM: Dong Yumin

350 rooms and suites

Located near the Xingang Harbour, 45 km from city centre, 25 km from airport, 4 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, conference room, coffee shop, bar, ballroom, health centre, indoor swimming pool, billiard room,



bowling, disco, shopping arcade, clinic, beauty salon, tennis courts, sauna, massage

Kunming, Yunnan

Begonia (Haitang) Hotel

荷葉飯店

Huancheng Road East, Kunming, Yunnan 650000

Tel: 3137573

GM: Wang Xiuying

231 rooms and suites

Located next to the eastern bus station, 9 km from airport, 5 km from railway station

Facilities: Restaurant, banquet hall, shopping arcade, indoor swimming pool

Golden Dragon Hotel

金龍飯店

575 Beijing Road, Kunming, Yunnan 650011

Tel: 3133104 Telex: 64060 GDHKM CN

Fax: 3131082

GM: Mai Qiliang

Opened January 1988

302 rooms and suites Rates: Standard US\$60-80, suite US\$150-750

Located 4 km from airport, 1 km from railway station

Facilities: Restaurants offering Western, Japanese, Guangdong and Yunnan dishes, conference/banquet rooms, business centre, indoor swimming pool, gym, bar, karaoke, disco, tennis court, clinic

Golden Flower Hotel

金花賓館

143 Huancheng Road West, Kunming, Yunnan 650031

Tel: 3132118

152 rooms and 17 suites

Located 20 km from airport, 10 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, banquet hall, ballroom, bar

Golden Peacock Hotel

金孔雀飯店

Daguan Park, Kunming, Yunnan 650032

Tel: 414334 Telex: 64017 GPHKM CN

Fax: 4141087

GM: An Rui Chuan

Opened June 1988

104 rooms

Located 10 km from airport, 6 km from railway station

Facilities: Restaurant, banquet hall, conference rooms, business centre, bar, billiard room, swimming pool, tennis courts, dance hall, karaoke



Green Lake Hotel

翠湖賓館

6 Cuihu (Green Lake) Road South, Kunming, Yunnan 650031

Tel: 5158888 Telex: 64073 GLHTL CN

Fax: 5153286

GM: Rene Hardmeier

Opened 1965 (New Wing in 1993)

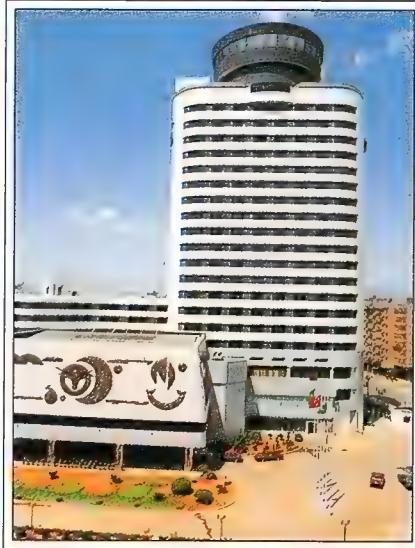
478 rooms and suites Rates: Standard US\$70-75, suite US\$120-128

Located in city centre, 12 km from airport, 7 km from railway station

Facilities: Restaurants, banquet facilities, beauty salon, massage, tennis courts, business centre, clinic, shopping arcade

King World Hotel

錦華大酒店



Kunming Camellia Hotel

昆明茶花賓館

154 Dongfeng Road East, Kunming, Yunnan 650041

Tel: 3163000, 3162918 Telex: 64135 KMCH CN

GM: Li Datong

Opened February 1986

140 rooms

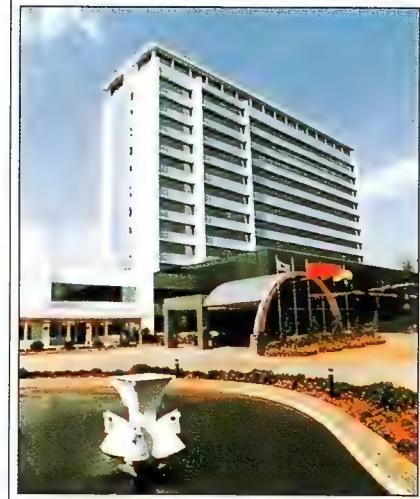
Located 7 km from airport, 3 km from railway station

Taxi fare to/from airport, Rmb ¥25; railway station, Rmb ¥10

Facilities: Chinese restaurant, business centre, shopping arcade, dance hall, bar

Kunming Hotel

昆明飯店



145 Dongfeng Road East, Kunming, Yunnan 650061

Tel: 3162063, 3162171 Telex: 64058 KMHTL CN

Fax: 3163784

GM: Duan Fu Guang

Opened 1958

400 rooms and suites

Located 5 km from airport, 3 km from railway station

Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, banquet rooms, conference rooms, coffee shop, dance hall, gym, business centre, karaoke, disco, sauna, beauty salon, indoor swimming pool, shopping arcade, billiard room

Orchid Hotel

蘭花賓館

Huancheng Road South, Kunming, Yunnan

Tel: 3135553 Fax: 3133155

GM: Ma Lizhou

Opened 28 January 1992

252 rooms

Located 15 min from airport, 3 min from railway station

Taxi fare to/from airport, Rmb ¥15; railway station, Rmb ¥10

Facilities: Restaurants, karaoke, bar, dance hall, beauty salon

Chuncheng (Spring City) Hotel

春城賓館

6-9 Dongfeng Road West, Kunming, Yunnan 650031

Tel: 23962, 24635

GM: Wang Gui Zheng

56 rooms and 5 suites

Located 13 km from airport, 6 km from railway station

Facilities: Restaurant, banquet hall, conference rooms, ballroom, bar

Yunnan Hotel

雲南飯店

83 Dongfeng Road West, Kunming, Yunnan

Tel: 3132419

GM: Liu Jiaxiang

Opened 1962

382 rooms

Located 15 km from airport, 5 km from railway station

Facilities: Restaurants, conference room, shops, beauty salon, clinic

BUSINESS TIPS

The members of the Chinese delegation to the 1994 World Economic Forum in Geneva have been appointed to the 1994 World Economic Forum in Geneva. The delegation consists of 100 members, including 50 from the Chinese government, 30 from Chinese business and 20 from Chinese academic institutions.



New Zone in Guilin

A special zone is being planned for the popular tourist city of Guilin in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, so as to attract more overseas visitors and business people. The zone will be set up by the Zhong Da Group, a Beijing-based shareholding corporation, and will be called the Yintelai Manor Special Zone. Inside the zone there will be luxury villas, a 5-star hotel, an international tourism centre, an entertainment complex, a kindergarten, shops and clubs. Construction and sales on the project have already started, with strong interest shown by Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Xinjiang's Foreign Investment Booming

The Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region has been very successful in attracting foreign investment, especially from the CIS. In the first 10 months of 1993, over 300 overseas investment projects were approved worth a total of US\$84.2 million. Two hundred of those projects were with former Soviet republics, although foreign investors in Xinjiang represent over 20 countries and regions all over the world. Types of projects underway are joint ventures, wholly foreign-funded enterprises, co-operative ventures and international leasing. About 70 per cent of the total investment to Xinjiang comes from foreign-funded enterprises engaged in export-oriented production.

More Karaoke Bars in Beijing

Business people working in Beijing who enjoy karaoke will be pleased to learn that 10 more luxury KTV bars have opened in the capital. The bars are constructed in a variety of unique architectural styles — including a Medieval European palace, a desert tent and a wine cellar — in order to attract the increasing numbers of business people who visit karaoke bars after a hard day's work.

Jewellery Centre Underway in Xi'an

The city of Xi'an in Shaanxi Province is the site of China's largest diamond and jewellery production and trade centre, currently under construction. The project is being jointly funded by three local companies at a cost of US\$14 million, and will have at its centre a 26-storey building. When the centre is completed in 1995 it will be capable of processing 15,000 carats of diamonds, two million pieces of jewellery and two million gift boxes annually.

100 Projects Open for Investment in Shanghai

The city of Shanghai has made attracting foreign investment for some 100 new projects a top priority for 1994. The projects will be in such areas as petrochemicals, metallurgy, power station equipment, telecommunications, electronics, tyres, computers and bearings, with each one requiring investment of over US\$10 million. Some of the city's most important infrastructure projects fall under these categories, including the No. 2 subway, the Pudong International Airport, an outer ring road, a rubbish disposal system and power plants. In order to attract overseas funding, Shanghai has adopted new measures and will provide more preferential treatment for foreign investors.

French Bank in Tianjin

Last year a branch of the French banking corporation Banque Nationale de Paris opened in the city of Tianjin. An official there stated that since its opening last summer business has grown dramatically, far surpassing all expectations.

New City in Jiangsu Gets Science Town

A high-tech science town is now being built in Jiangsu Province's city of Jintan, located near Changzhou and about halfway between Shanghai and Nanjing. Jintan, whose population is 540,000, was upgraded from a rural county to a municipality just last year. The Hua Luogeng Science Town, named after a well-known mathematician who was a Jintan native, will cover 15 square kilometres and will be divided into two sections — one for high-tech research and firms with foreign funding, and the other for new industry based on the region's abundant salt resources, estimated at 16 billion tons. With its new designation as a city, Jintan is putting much effort into developing infrastructure, and already dozens of foreign-funded firms have signed contracts to start businesses there.

New Customs Procedures Set Up

January 1 of this year saw the start of new measures to simplify export procedures at Guangzhou Customs. Businesses that have been registered in the customs-administration area are divided into three categories, with the most well-run of the businesses to get top priority in customs clearance. A well-run business is defined as one which always abides by customs regulations, has good accounts, sound management, and no history of tax evasion or other legal problems.

Ningbo Enlarging Harbour Facilities

The coastal city of Ningbo in Zhejiang Province has decided on a plan to double its annual cargo handling capacity to 100 million tons by the year 2000. At present Ningbo Harbour's 48 berths, which can all receive 500-ton ships, can handle 50 million tons of cargo per year. The harbour is comprised of Beilun Port, Zhenhai Port and old Ningbo Port, all of which will be enlarged according to the new plan. In addition, five transfer bases and five thoroughfares are to be built over the next eight years, the former of which will be used for imported iron ore, ocean-going containers, coal storage, and petroleum and oil storage.

ASPAT '94 Coming to Beijing

The Fifth Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair (ASPAT) will be held from June 7 to 13 at Beijing's China International Exhibition Centre at 6 East Beisanhuan Road. Sponsored by the United Nations Economic & Social Commission for Asia & the Pacific and the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, the event is expected to attract some 500,000 visitors from China and 30 overseas countries and regions. There will be separate pavilions for different categories of businesses such as light industry, electronics, machinery, high-tech equipment, township enterprises, coastal area firms and arts and crafts. All trade organizations and individual companies from UN member countries are welcome to participate. To reserve space at the fair, phone Ms Zheng at (861) 4678309 or 4671704, or fax her at (861) 4676811.

Book on China Investment

A new book has recently been published in China outlining the country's investment laws and projects. Called Investment in China, the book gives details on all of China's special zones as well as information on over 200 technology-related investment projects. Approval procedures for investing in projects are also included.



Singapore-Chengdu Flights

Travellers can now fly direct between Singapore and the city of Chengdu in Sichuan Province, thanks to a new route launched recently by Singapore Airlines. Flights are scheduled for twice a week on every Tuesday and Saturday. This route is the first international air route for Chengdu, the provincial capital.

New River Route in Hunan

A new river route between the cities of Yiyang and Yueyang has been launched in Hunan. Tourists can board river boats in either of these cities in northern Hunan, and along the way can enjoy the scenery of famous Dongting Lake, Taohua (Peach Blossom) River, fishing villages and more.

1994 Tourist Activities in Shaanxi

Shaanxi Province's Tourist Bureau and Relics Bureau have organized the following special tourist activities for 1994:

- An exhibition of the new relics unearthed from the Qin Shihuang mausoleum area;
- An exhibition of Shaanxi's selected ancient mural paintings;
- The sale of original rubbings of famous stone tablets found in Xi'an's Stele Forest;
- A pre-exhibition of the terracotta warriors' ditch No. 2;
- The 4th Chang'an International Calligraphy Meeting;
- A Japanese emperor's tour, in co-operation with a Japanese travel agency, which will take visitors to visit the Stele Forest in Xi'an and see the names of Japanese emperors carved on stone tablets;
- A Muslim tour, in co-operation with a French travel agency, which will take visitors on a study of Chinese archaeology; and
- In Xianyang there will be a Medical and Health Tour, with the Xianyang Chinese Medical Institute and Yaowang (Chinese Medicine King) Mountain in Yaoxian County as its main destinations.

Antique Ceramics Unearthed

While excavating an ancient town in Zhejiang Province's coastal city of Ningbo, a large cache of ceramics, some 240 artefacts in all, was found. This discovery confirms archaeologists' beliefs that Ningbo was once a major port for shipping Chinese ceramics abroad between the 17th and 19th centuries. The ceramics were unearthed near Ningbo's Dongdu Road, and are similar to those previously discovered in Southeast Asia and Africa.

Nationalities Park Opens in Beijing

This month sees the opening of part of a new tourist attraction in Beijing called the Chinese Nationalities Park. Located to the west of the National Olympic Centre, the park will showcase the architecture of China's 56 nationalities. Construction has been completed on about half of the park's total 45.2 hectares in the northern section, consisting of 16 models of nationality villages and some 100 scenic spots. When the rest of the park opens in 1995, there will also be an exhibition hall containing cultural relics and objects used by the various nationalities.

Funicular Open in Shanghai

Shanghai's Sheshan Mountain has recently opened to the public its first funicular. In the scenic area of Sheshan, tourists previously had to reach the top by foot. But now, with this 544-metre-long funicular, visitors can reach the summit in minutes by means of its 18 cars. The project was completed after a period of 18 months of work.

Terracotta Soldier Coins Issued

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the discovery of Shaanxi's famous terracotta warriors, and to commemorate the event, China has issued a set of six coins. The coins also mark the 15th anniversary of the terracotta army's museum, and depict images of some of the soldiers as well as a portrait of Qin Shihuang, the emperor whose tomb they were found in.

New Hotel in Shanghai

The Hotel Sofitel Hyland Shanghai, located on 505 Nanjing Road East, held its grand opening on January 15 of this year. The hotel features 400 rooms with complete facilities, a business centre, a fitness centre, a beauty salon and barber shop, a deli, a shopping arcade, karaoke, function rooms, Chinese and Western restaurants and executive floors.

Mongolian Artefacts on Exhibit in Los Angles

On March 5, the American city of Los Angeles was the location of the opening of an exhibition of artefacts from Inner Mongolia called "Genghis Khan and the Ancient Northern Ethnic Minorities". Over 90 objects from Inner Mongolia dating as far back as the Dayao Culture some 700,000 years ago are on exhibit at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles. In addition, relics of various peoples such as the Xiongnu (Huns), Qidan (Khitan) and Mongols are on view. Included among the artefacts are a model of a Yuan-dynasty tomb, objects once used by Genghis Khan and a modern Mongolian yurt. After the exhibit is over in Los Angeles, it will be taken to six other American cities.

New Tourist Routes Open in Sichuan, Henan

A number of new tourist routes have been set up in Sichuan and Henan provinces based largely on cultural relics and historic sites. In Sichuan there are 33 cultural sites under State protection and 243 sites under provincial protection. The eight new tourist routes will take visitors to the Three Gorges area of the Yangtse River, Emei Mountain, an ancient irrigation system in Dujiang Weir and a panda reserve in Jiangyou County. Two of the province's most well-publicized tourist events of 1994 will be the Leshan International Buddha Festival in May and the Dazu Stone Carvings Art Festival in October.

In Henan, the province with the most cultural relic sites in all of China, 10 new tourist routes will focus on the more famous of these sites. Altogether some 23,000 historical sites and ruins have been identified, including 30 under State protection and 500 designated as provincial-level protected sites. The new routes will take in ancient capital cities such as Zhengzhou, Luoyang, Xuchang, Anyang and Kaifeng, where visitors can see well-known sites such as Shaolin Temple, Baima Temple and the Longmen Grottoes.

Botanical Garden in Xining

The first botanical garden ever set up on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau has opened in Xining, the capital of Qinghai Province. The garden consists of six sections: one for wild flowers and plants, one for various types of grasses, one each for lilacs, pines and roses, and one for artificial flowers and plants in landscaped containers. The garden is not only available for scientific research and educational purposes, but is also open to any sightseer interested in the region's diverse botanical resources.

Zhejiang's Ancient Towns and Waterside Villages

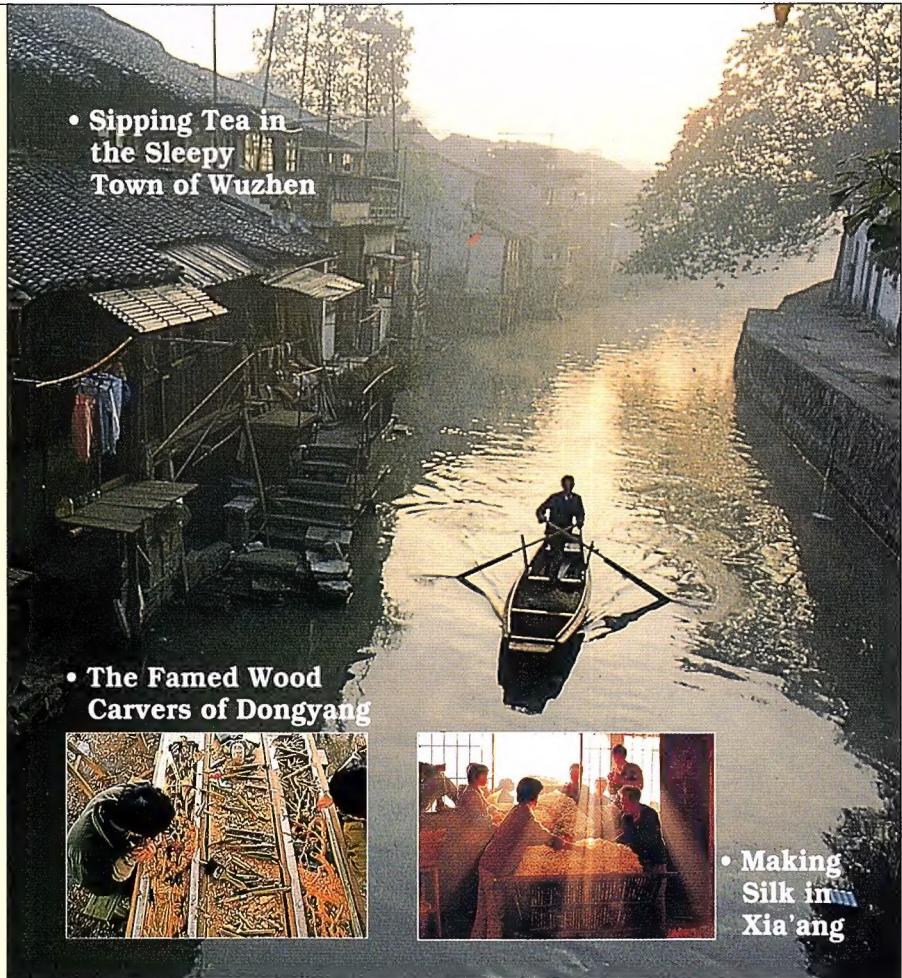
In our next issue we will be offering our readers a new look at Zhejiang Province. Rather than focusing on the well-known cities of Hangzhou, Ningbo and Shaoxing, we will take you to some of the more out-of-the-way towns and villages of this lovely province. We will explore the tranquil hometown of the writer Mao Dun, visit a town renowned for its beautiful wood carvings, see how silkworms are raised and attend a unique Silkworm Festival. Outside of Zhejiang, we will take you to a swan reserve in Xinjiang, scale the heights of Taimu Mountain in Fujian and much, much more.



• A Furtive Glimpse at a Swan's Paradise in Bayanbulak



• The Half-Hidden Beauty of Taimu Mountain



A Brief Introduction to Zhejiang Export Fasteners

As one of the leading branches of China Minetals to export fasteners of various kinds, we have a large number of manufacturers who specialize in fasteners. Using the best equipment and advanced technology, our total production capacity is in the tens of billions.

We supply fasteners according to DIN, ANSI, JIS and BSW standards in all sorts and sizes. Our main products are Hexagon Nuts, Hexagon Bolts, Square Nuts, Carriage Bolts, Roofing Bolts, Spring Washers, Machine Screws, Self Tapping Screws, Woodscrews, etc.

Due to our high quality, punctual delivery and top service, our products have been well received by customers in Hong Kong, Macao, Singapore, Malaysia, Southeast Asia, Europe, America and other countries.

Orders and enquiries are much appreciated and samples, drawings and materials for the production of all kinds of fasteners are always welcome.



**ZHEJIANG METALS &
MINERALS IMPORT &
EXPORT CORPORATION**

Add: 102 Feng Qi Road, Hangzhou, China

Tel: 5158785 5154881

Cable: MINMETALS HANGZHOU

Tlx: 351032 35027 MIMET CN

Fax: (0571) 5153871 5158783





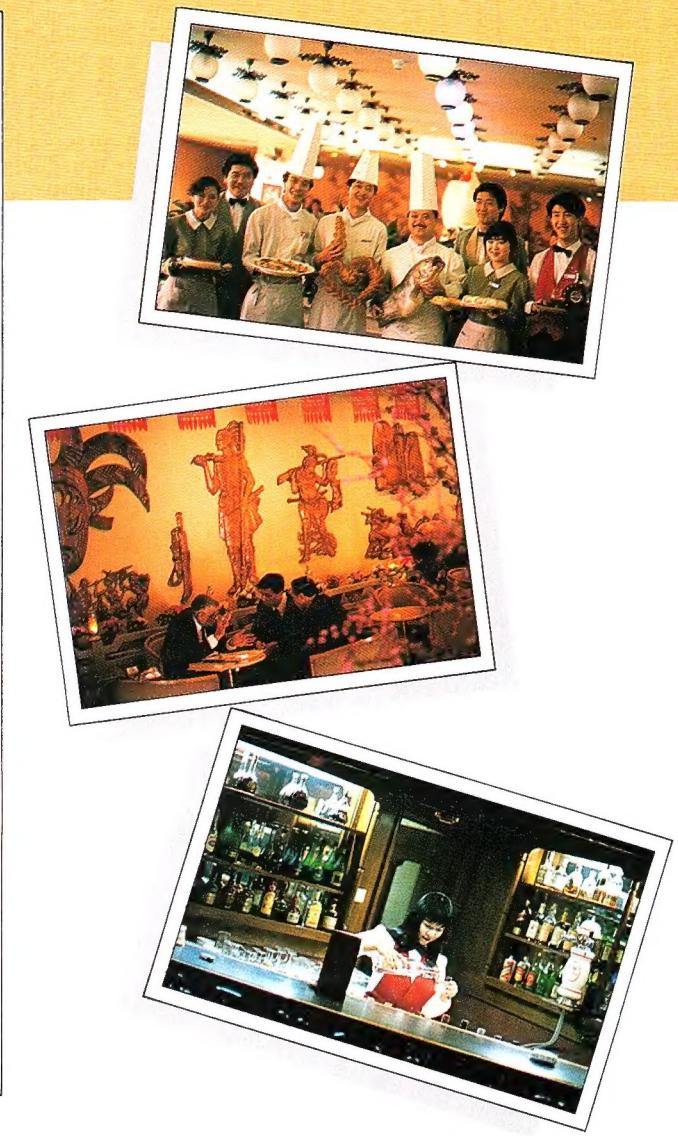
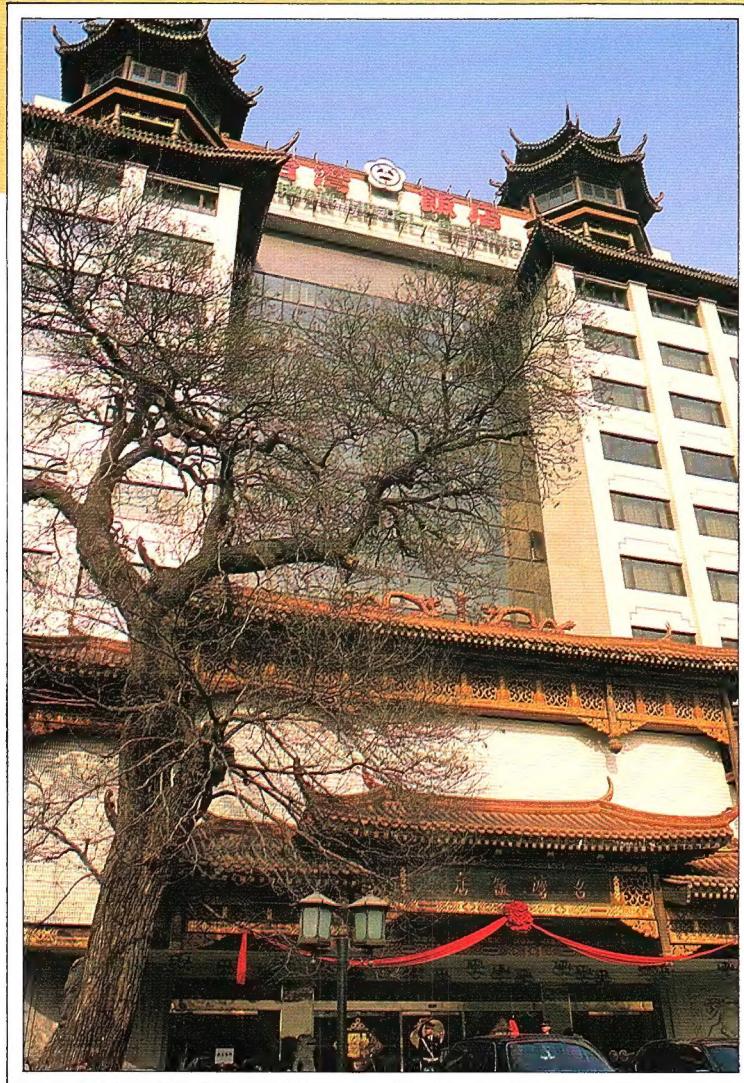
中國國際航空公司

AIR CHINA



與紫禁城爲鄰的台灣飯店

Taiwan Hotel beside the Forbidden City



- 位於北京市中心王府井商業繁華區，交通最便利
- 284間豪華客房，國際電話、衛星轉播等設備齊全
- 設有宴會廳、食街、中西餐廳，供應各種風味美食
- 商務中心、商場、銀行、夜總會、卡拉OK歌廳、美髮廳、健身房、桑拿浴、旅行社、醫務室等設施，為客人提供各項周到的服務

台灣飯店用微笑迎候每一位客人....

- Most conveniently and centrally located in the city
- 284 rooms and suites equipped with IDD and satellite TV
- Banquet hall, Food Street, Chinese & Western restaurants offering different kinds of dishes
- Business centre, shopping centre, bank, nightclub, karaoke, beauty salon, gym, sauna, ticket booking, clinic

We welcome you with all smiles

台灣飯店
Taiwan Hotel

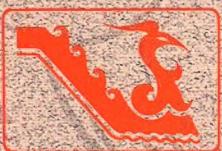
北京

香港美芝國際酒店管理 Managed by Harvest International Hotel Ltd. H.K.

地址：北京市王府井金魚胡同5號 電話：513 6688 傳真：513 6896 郵編：100006

Add : 5 Jinyu Wutong, Wangfujing North, Beijing, China. Tel : 5136688 Fax : 5136896 Post Code : 100006

香港 電話：861 2682 傳真：866 3850 HK Tel : 8612682 Fax : 8663850



SHENZHEN

深
圳

中國民俗文化村

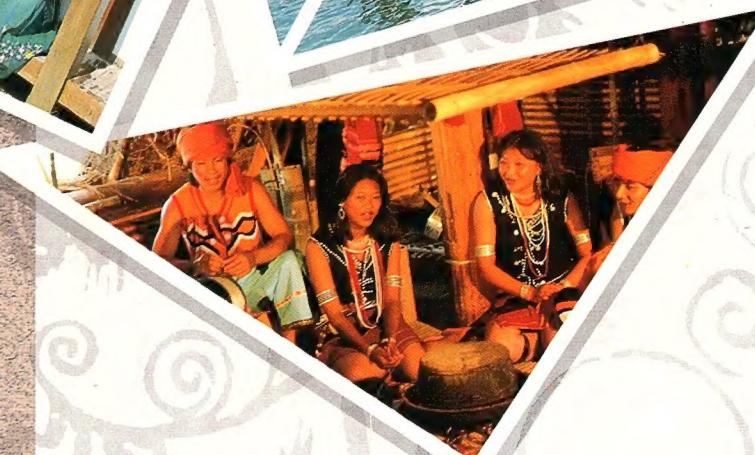
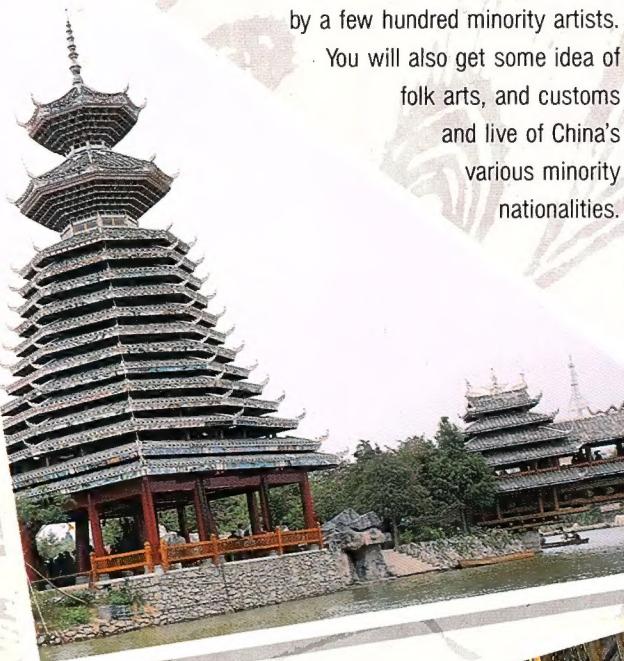
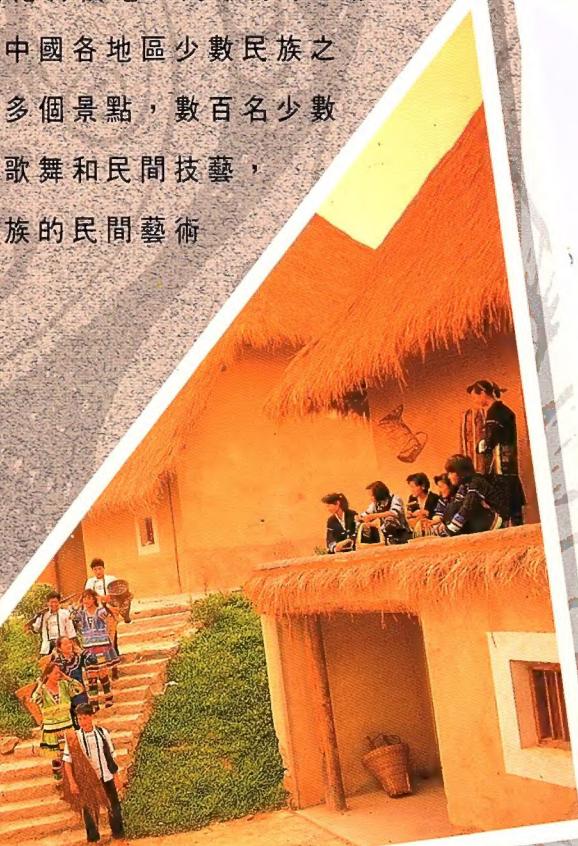
China Folk Culture Villages

中 國民俗文化村佔地24萬平方米，按1:1比例建造中國各地區少數民族之24個村寨和20多個景點，數百名少數民族藝員表演歌舞和民間技藝，使您領略各民族的民間藝術和民族風情。

In an area of 240,000 square metres, 24 villages of China's minority nationalities on the scale of 1:1 and more than 20 well-known scenic places are built in China Folk Culture Villages.

Here you can enjoy the performance of folk song and dance, and folk acrobatics presented by a few hundred minority artists.

You will also get some idea of folk arts, and customs and live of China's various minority nationalities.



香港中國旅行社有限公司
CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE (HONG KONG) LIMITED

("中國民俗文化村"港、澳、台及海外總代理)
香港干諾道78-83號中旅集團大廈，電話：853-3888 牌照號碼：350273
(General Agent for the Business of "China Folk Culture Villages"
in Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan as well as Overseas) T.A. Licence No. 350273
CTS House, 78-83 Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong. Tel: 853-3888



深圳錦繡中華發展有限公司
SHENZHEN SPLENDID CHINA DEVELOPMENT CO. LTD.

中國深圳特區華僑城 電話：6601106 6600626 6600625
Overseas Chinese Town, Shenzhen Special Economic Zone, China.
Tel: 6601106, 6600626, 6600625